Department of Massachusetts

141st Annual Encampment

April 21-22, 2023

Groton, MA

2023 Proceedings

141st Massachusetts Encampment.

Commander John Dupre: The Officers will assume their respective stations. All will be in order.

The boatman comes and comes again. And Brothers, one by one, He bears away far o'er the tide, Beyond the setting sun. Senior Vice Commander, to what purpose shall we devote these moments of our meeting?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: To the memory of Brothers John Sherman, George Kane, Conley Ford and Rich ? who were honored members of our Order and this Department. Secretary, were our Brothers true to our Order, and did they loyally support it?

Secretary Daniel Murray: They did, Commander.

Commander John Dupre: Patriotic Instructor, were our Brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your station, Patriotism, Strength, and Courage?

Patriotic Instructor ? : They were, Commander.

Commander John Dupre: Senior Vice Commander, were our Brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your station, Charity and Purity?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: They were, Commander.

Commander John Dupre: Junior Vice Commander, were our Brothers true to the principles denoted by the flag of your station, Fraternity and Faithfulness?

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: They were, Commander.

Commander John Dupre: Brother Guide, were our Brothers true to the Flag of our Country, and were they ever ready to defend it against all enemies?

Guide Charles Lewis: They were, Commander.

Commander John Dupre: Does any Brother wish to offer a tribute to the memory of our departed Brothers? If so, he may now speak. Chaplain, have you any word of comfort for us from the Holy Book which has an honored place upon our Altar?

Chaplain Dexter Bishop : God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Psalm 44:1. Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die." John 11:25-26. He also said: "Let not your hearts be troubled, ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you; and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also." John 14:1-3.

Commander John Dupre: Brothers, what attitude should we always maintain toward the memory of our departed Brothers?

All : The faults of our Brothers we write upon the sand, their virtues upon the tablets of love and memory.

Commander John Dupre: The Chaplain will lead us in prayer.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Our Father, who art in Heaven, the Father of our Lord Jesus, and the Father of us all, we pray for your blessing to abide upon this humble service. Bless the memory of our departed Brothers. Bless and comfort those near and dear to them by the ties of the flesh and fraternity. Help us, each one, to appreciate more and more the blessings we receive, daily, from Your great heart of love, and help us to prove our gratitude for all these good gifts, by our lives of usefulness and integrity. Bless our friends and Brothers everywhere, and may we be worthy of them and of You. Lead us graciously by Your strong right hand and make us all to be the citizens we are privileged to be in this goodly land which You have given to us. We ask in the name of our Savior. Amen.

All: Amen.

141st Massachusetts Encampment.

Commander John Dupre: The Officers and members of the 141st Annual Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, will now come to order. Guide, determine if all present are entitled to remain.
The Secretary will call the roll of the Officers of the Encampment.

Secretary Daniel Murray: Commander John Dupre Sir, the roll is called.
Secretary Daniel Murray: Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Present.

Secretary Daniel Murray: Junior Vice Commander John Wilder

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: Present.

Secretary Daniel Murray: Council Kevin Tucker

Council Kevin Tucker: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Council Dezter Bishop

Chaplain Dexter Bishop : Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Council William Naughton

Council William Naughton: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Secretary/Treasurer Daniel Murray. Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Patriotic Instructor Kenneth London. Absent

Secretary Daniel Murray: Chaplain Dexter Bishop

Chaplain Dexter Bishop : Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Historian Peter Preble. Absent

Secretary Daniel Murray: Guide Charles Lewis.

Guide Charles Lewis: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Counselor Kevin Tucker.

Counselor Kevin Tucker: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Civil War Memorial Officer Matthew Sargent. Absent

Secretary Daniel Murray: Graves Registration Officer William Naughton

Graves Registration Officer William Naughton: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Eagle Scout Award Officer Michael Terry

Eagle Scout Award Officer Michael Terry: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: ROTC Officer Albert Smith

ROTC Officer Albert Smith: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: GAR Highway Officer George Maple. Absent

Secretary Daniel Murray: Signals Officer John Manning. Absent

Secretary Daniel Murray: Clarion Call Editor Roderick Fraser.

Clarion Call Editor Roderick Fraser: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Quartermaster John Wilder.

Quartermaster John Wilder: Present

Secretary Daniel Murray: Sir, the roll is called.

Commander John Dupre: Brothers, upon what principles is our Order founded and what duties do we inculcate?

All : Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

Commander John Dupre: Brothers, we meet again as Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War in annual session, to review the work of the past and to plan for the future. May our conduct and our deliberations be marked by mutual tolerance and fraternal courtesy, ever keeping in mind our duty to our country, to our Order, and to ourselves. The Chaplain will invoke the Divine blessing.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Our Heavenly Father, the high and mighty ruler of the universe, Who looks down upon the government of men, we earnestly ask Your favor to bless our native land and preserve in purity and integrity its free institutions for all coming time. Bless our Order. Grant that it may long exist, and that it may continue to be an instrument of great good to all. Give us willing hands and ready hearts to carry out properly its principles and objectives. Keep green in our minds the memory of those who sacrificed so much that the life of the nation might be preserved, and deal with them in all things with Your special mercy. Give us Your aid in conducting the business for which we are assembled, and so bless us that Charity and Justice, and Peace and Harmony shall remain and flow from us. Amen.

All: Amen

Commander John Dupre: Brothers, we will now give the Pledge of Allegiance. Color Bearer, present the colors.

All: I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Commander John Dupre: By virtue of the authority vested in me I hereby declare the 141st Annual Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, duly opened for the transaction of such business as may legally and properly come before it. The Guard will admit all Brothers qualified to enter.

The Credentials Committee will be Brothers Roderick Fraser, Kevin Tucker and Michael Terry.

Officers of the National Organization, on behalf of the Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, I extend you a hearty welcome to our meeting. Junior Vice Commander Martin would you like to say a few words.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: Good morning, Brothers. I bring you greetings on behalf of the National Commander in Chief Bruce Frail. He wanted to let you know he regretted that he was not able to attend himself, but he does hope to see everyone at the National Encampment in Nashua in August. There are several things he wanted me to bring to this encampment and it will take a fair amount of time so we would like me to do it at some other time or do it now.

Commander John Dupre: I think we will proceed with that under new business.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: Thank you.

Commander John Dupre: Kevin?

Council Kevin Tucker: Commander, I move that Rosemary Martin be allowed to sit in our meeting.

Brother Edward Norris: I'll 2nd.

Commander John Dupre: All those in favor say aye. Any opposed? Motion carries Report of the Committee on Credentials.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Sir, the report is we have the following delegates present for our Department Encampment. Camp 5 total Delegates allowed 3, Delegates present 3. Camp 22 total Delegates allowed 2, total Delegates present 0. Camp 15 total Delegates allowed 4, total Delegates present 0. Camp 25 total Delegates allowed 4, total Delegates present 0. Camp 26 total Delegates allowed 2, present 0. Camp 50 allowed 2, present 0. Camp 54 allowed 2 present 0. Camp 61 allowed 2, present 0. Camp 104 allowed 3, present one. Camp 132 allowed 2, present 0. Camp 3188 allowed 2, present 0. We also have one Past Commander in Chief, 5 Past Department Commanders, one Past Camp Commander and 2 current Camp Commander. Sir, that is my report.

Brother Edward Norris: Commander, who are the 5 Past Department Commanders?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Dan Murray, Kevin Tucker, Dexter Bishop, William Naughton and John Dupre.

Commander John Dupre: Reports of Officer. We will start with the Senior Vice Commander.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Roderick Fraser Senior Vice Commander Department of Massachusetts brothers as the Department Senior Vice Commander, I participated in the following events. Veterans Day headstone dedication for US Navy Landsman Thomas B Francis the General Charles Russell Lowell GAR plot at Mount Hope Cemetery in Boston. The General Benjamin Butler Remembrance Ceremony, Memorial Day ceremony at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne to include a Memorial ceremony for the 7 soldiers of the 1st Massachusetts Infantry who were killed during a skirmish known as Blackburns Ford. General Ulysses S Grant's 200th birthday ceremony in New York City, rededication of the Shaw 54th Memorial on Beacon St., Boston, and I represented the National Commander in Chief as the installing officer at the Department of Florida Department Encampment in St. Cloud Florida. I prepared and published the Department Newsletter, the Clarion call and I served on the 2023 National Encampment Committee. I was appointed to the National Marketing and Promotions Committee and also attended the 67th annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony sponsored by the SUVCW and MOLLUS. It was held at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield Illinois at 10 AM Saturday, April 15, 2023. Respectfully submitted Roderick J Fraser.

Commander John Dupre: Kevin?

Council Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker, Past Department Commander it I would like to add that Brother Fraser has been awarded the Meritorious Service Award with Gold Star. It is the highest award of the Sons of Union Veterans for service

All: applause.

Commander John Dupre: Junior Vice Commander

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder, Department Junior Vice Commander and Past Commander of Camp 104. In the past year I have received a small number of membership inquiries forwarded to me from the Junior Vice Commander in Chief. I put them each in contact with the Camp closest to them. I also received a couple of the direct inquiries and directed them in a similar manner. In conjunction with the Department Historian Peter Preble progress has been made on the Department Archives. The greatest achievements being the archival storage of all archived charters in the digitization of all historical proceedings of the Annual Department Encampments which are now available online. I was pleased to travel with the Department Commander to visit Camp 50 in Rockland for one of their meetings. I worked the Department Senior Vice Commander develop a general membership certificate and I also worked to locate and inventory Department owned equipment and other items. Efforts are ongoing. Thank you..

Commander John Dupre: Secretary.

Secretary Daniel Murray: Sir, all of the Department reports required by national since last Encampment have been submitted on time. Since the last encampment, no camps were suspended for failure to submit the Annual Report. The current Department strength is 168 brothers. Last year our Department strength of the hundred and 65 brothers. The total number of camps in the Department is 11. Respectfully submitted. The Treasurer's report as of March 31, 2023 there is $10,334.87 in the checking account and $34,919.76 in the savings account. The

current value of the Trusts and CDs is $181,286.60. The current market value of the Wells Fargo fund is $852,335.03 which is a decrease of $101,980.80 from last year. The projected annual income from that account is now $38,883 which is a $9900 increase from last year. Total assets for the Department as of March 31 are $1,078,876.26. Thank you Sir.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. Report of the Council.

Council Kevin Tucker: Commander, Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander, we will do that under new business with the budget.

Commander John Dupre: Okay that's fine. Chaplain.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Dexter Bishop, Chaplain. I am not sure which camp I am from at the moment, it is either 22 or 5 take your pick. I have done my duties for this past year and I hope to be able to continue. I attended most of the Department events and we have 4 Brother's that have passed this year and if you would like to see their pictures due to technical issues you have to come up here to look. Thank you.

Commander John Dupre: Graves Registration Officer William Naughton.

Graves Registration Officer William Naughton: Bill Naughton camp 104, Department Grave Registrations Officer this year through the efforts of brothers, Camps and other individuals 326 more Union veterans have had their information listed on the national database. That brings the total to 31,608 burial locations known for Civil War veterans of the state of Massachusetts I know 31,608 sound like an awful lot but there are recorded 102,252 men who served in Massachusetts units or in federal service credited to Massachusetts, so we still have some work to do. Presently we have 342 veterans markers that are specially made for this Department from a foundry that is casting them. We also have 158 GA our markers and we have a supply of D2 biological cleaner for any camp that needs to work in a Cemetery, thank you.

Commander John Dupre: Eagle Scout Coordinator Michael Terry

Eagle Scout Coordinator Michael Terry: I am Michael Terry, Eagle Scout Coordinator for the Department. This year we Purchased a supply of certificates to be presented to Eagle Scouts at the Courts of Honor. As you know approximately 6% of scouts become Eagle Scouts in any given year, so it is quite an honor. I've had the honor of presenting several certificates this year. I am trying to get the word out to more districts so we can be more active, among the various troops in Massachusetts. Thank you.

Commander John Dupre: Counselor Kevin Tucker.

Counselor Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander and Counselor. I've had nothing to counsel him on so I have no report.

Commander John Dupre: G AR Highway Officer George Maple is absent however he did send his report. This is the GAR Highway in Massachusetts Rt 6. It reads as follows; There was no sign when you enter Massachusetts on 6 E. from Rhode Island. On 6 E., I was able to locate 11

GAR Memorial Highway markers, including the sign in Provincetown marking the Eastern end of the Highway. I will not read the list. On 6 W., I was able to locate 12 GAR Memorial Highway markers, including the sign in Provincetown marking Eastern beginning of the Highway. Several of the signs are not easy to spot as they are behind poles or foliage. A few towns have markers for both directions on the same side or in the center of the Highway, making it harder to spot them in less you are looking for them. Two towns have markers memorializing the Highway for other groups. Fairhaven has signs indicating it is Fairhaven Firefighters Memorial Highway. Barnstable has signs indicating it is the Korean War Veterans Highway. These are both worthy groups and I do not believe we should fight to remove the signs that they put up. Submitted April 27, 2023, in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, George Maple PDC. So, ROTC officer Al Smith.

ROTC Officer Albert Smith: Al Smith ROTC Officer. I accepted to participate in 5 ROTC award ceremonies. 2 additional ones because of the conflict in dates I did not attend. There are a total of 7 schools where we handed out the badge and certificate to the awardees.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. Guide Charles Lewis.

Guide Charles Lewis: Good morning, Charles W Lewis Camp Commander Chelsea Soldiers Home. Because of the restrictions of Covid 19 the Chelsea Soldiers Home(unintelligible) 2021, since then I have 6 new members and 5 members who live away from the Chelsea Soldiers Home. Last year they had a meal here that 6 of us attended. Unfortunately have 4 veterans who are female who are interested in joining Camp 22. On February 12 at the Lincoln Brunch in Wakefield there was 5 of my new members and they are very enthusiastic about Camp 22. Two weeks ago, Dexter Bishop and I at the Chelsea Soldiers Home had the Shades of Gray band perform. We would have had better participation, but I had lost my privilege to go up on the wards to help bring the patients down. The monthly events that Dexter Bishop and I have on Wednesday, and we would have discussions on the Civil War. It had been going on for 4 or 5 years prior to Covid but now things are starting to get back to normal. Attendance at meetings is increased and residence of the residential strip have shown intense interest, and I am very optimistic of that. Thank you.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. Kevin.

Council Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander, I just want to clarify that the women that are recruited at this Chelsea Soldiers Home are not members. They can be auxiliary but not members.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. Quartermaster.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder, I have covered most of my other reports and the only thing I will add is if you have anything that belongs to the Department, give it back. Thank you.

Commander John Dupre: I will continue with Camp reports.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Commander I have the Clarion call report.

Commander John Dupre: Oh yes, go ahead.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Roderick Fraser, Head Editor of the Clarion Call. The Clarion Call was sent out 4 times, on time each quarter. We have emails for 123 brothers in the Department. Commander Dupre was very successful in getting the Camps to send in their email addresses. We transitioned the Clarion Call from an email-based newsletter to mail champ this year. This helps us to see how many Brothers actually open the newsletter. Camps that have submitted articles or news for inclusion in the Clarion call in the past year are Camp 25, Camp 50, Camp 54 and the 1st Military District Sons of Veterans Reserve. The previous Department Commander asked all Brothers to bring in one new member and instructed the names of the new members and their sponsors to be listed in the Clarion Call. Only one name was submitted, Brother Joseph Nawn of Camp 54. If Camps have a new Brother who comes into the Order please send me an email so we can put it into the Clarion Call so that everyone knows we have no Brothers going into the various Camps. That Sir, it is my report.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. Camp reports, Camp 5?

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: Dexter Bishop Camp 5. We have 4 new members who are all direct descendents, which I am very excited about. One of the young men who has joined will be getting a certificate as Eagle Scout and another for 5 weeks which I will have an opportunity to to present. Other than that, we've been meeting as regular as possible. We're still at the G AR Hall in Lynn. If you haven't been there, I now have the opportunity to say, come on down. If you would like to see some pictures of it I can show you that to. We probably have the best all in the country as far as I'm concerned. As anyone who comes in and sees it will agree. It is really something great. This next August at the National Encampment we are going to have a free bus, actually a van around 15 passengers to take people from Nashua who would like to see the Hall in Lynn and take a tour. Thank you very much.

Commander John Dupre: As Commander I have been to the G AR Hall in Lynn twice and it is just as fascinating each time I see it. I have the written report from L A Tifft Camp 15 Springfield Massachusetts. The camp held Memorial Day services at Palmer Massachusetts. Camp members attended Veterans Day services in Belchertown, Ware and Ludlow be Camp has gained for new Brothers this year and lost 5 Brothers, 3 due to their passing, one by transferring out and one by Honorable Discharge. The Camp Commander provided taps to as many funerals for veterans as he could fit into his schedule. Respectfully submitted, In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty Edward T Knight, Camp Commander I will proceed with Camp 25. Commander Sargent is due to arrive here sometime today he has a professional exam he has to takes this morning. Annual report of activities, the Willie grout Camp 25 has remained active in preserving the memory of the soldiers sailors and Marines who fought for the Union in the Civil War. Below are some of the highlights from the 2022 2023 timeframe. May 2022-Annual flagging of Civil War graves in Hope Cemetery in Worcester Massachusetts. May 30th 2022-Brother Mark Ziemba is a read General Logan's Memorial Gave Order at Hope Cemetery on Memorial Day as part of Worcester Massachusetts Memorial Day events. July 2022-A camp field trip to the Rockland GAR Hall was attended by 3 members of camp and enjoyed by all. November 6, 2022-Members of the camp participated in the General Benjamin Butler Memorial Ceremony along with the SVR and members of other Camps in the state. November 12, 2022-Brother Re is a y Rodriguez and his

daughter attended the Worcester Massachusetts Veterans Day Parade marching along the short route with the Camps guide on. November 17-22, 2022-Brothers from the camp attended the Gettysburg Remembrance Date trip in Gettysburg Pennsylvania. March 27, 2023-At the monthly camp meeting Commander Matthew Sergeant presented the Worcester Marine Corp League Commandant with a plaque from the Camp in recognition of the generosity and hospitality provided by the Marine Corp League allowing the Camp to host their meetings. Brother Roy Henry has continued to flag graves of Civil War veterans and interact with various organizations in his hometown of Uxbridge Massachusetts in the research and documentation of those from Uxbridge with a tie to the Civil War. Brother Andrew Kjellberg has continued to berg has continued to research and develop a database of all veterans to include those from the Civil War buried in his hometown of Grafton Massachusetts. Brother Garret Dupre 1st Lieutenant United States Army returned from deployment to Jordan has a member of the New Hampshire National Guard. He has gifted the Department an American flag was flown from his Humvee while on deployment in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. That is the report from Camp 25. General D. N. Couch Camp 26. Our activities over the year include: Adding a new Brother is a member of Camp 26 increased our roster to 5 Brothers. We have another new member in process and another potential member referred by Senior Vice Commander Fraser. Inventorying local Civil War memorials and are in the process of determining ownership and assessing their condition for repairs or restoration. Continuing our ongoing collaboration with the local Veterans Graves Registration Officer to scope out grants and other funding sources. Established or renewed contacts with the local High School Guidance Departments, Community Service Coordinators and ROTC leads. Continuing to sit on the Board of Trustees for the Tau is and is sonton GAR Post 3 Scholarship Trust. Last year we awarded 3 scholarship each in the amount of $1000. This year will be rewarding two scholarships for $1000 each. In 2022 we also collaborated with representatives from the Mayor's office to redesign the GAR scholarship webpage and application process. Brother Chris Cox continues his Civil War reenactment activities and has also marked his 32nd year with the 1812 Marine Guard reenactors, as a crewmember onboard the USS Constitution. Brother Van Jabagjorian represented Camp 26 at the Lincoln Birthday Brunch and made an informative presentation to the Camp 26 Brother's at our March meeting. We continue our collaboration with the Tauton Allied Veterans, Taunton Vietnam Veterans and the Veterans Memorial Marker Committee to build public awareness of the SUVCW and actively and participate in local patriotic activities, such as flagging graves, fundraising and Patriotic holiday events. We are also actively pursuing recruitment of new members and associate members from the ranks of these other organizations. It is our hope that leveraging our relationship with other local Veterans Organizations will allow us to better fulfill our mission and to serve in ways we otherwise would not be able to give our limited roster. Respectfully submitted, in Fraternity Charity and Loyalty, Michael E Rice Commander, General D.N.. Camp 26 Department of Massachusetts SUVCW. There is no report from Camp 50, Camp 54.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: This is the report of the Colonel Robert Gould Shaw Camp number 54 in Boston. Camp 54 worked hard this past year to be active and promote the SUV CW and keep green the memory of the gallant Union soldiers who served so selflessly. In the past year, we brought in 2 new Brother's but have lost 6 Brothers. One Brother requested an Honorable Discharge and 5 Brothers were dropped due to nonpayment of dues. Our current

strength is at 11 Brothers. Camp 54 continues the restoration of the general Charles Russell Lowell G AR Plot at Mount Hope Cemetery as a project. In 2022 Brothers of the Camp cleaned headstones in the plot for the 3rd year in a row. They also cleaned stones in the city of Boston Soldiers and Sailors Plot. The Camp raise money to restore the 2 pieces of field artillery at the plot. This includes purchasing granite bases as well as having the cannon preserved. Camp 54 has over 90% of the funding needed to complete the project and is requesting $550 from the Department in order to complete the project. In honor of Veterans Day Colonel Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54 held a headstone dedication ceremony for U.S. Navy Landsman Thomas B Francis at the General Charles Russell Lowell G AR Plot at Mount Hope Cemetery in Boston. Landsman Thomas was an African-American men served on the USS Kennebec and Admiral David Farragut's squadron. He took part in the attacks on forts Jackson and Saint Philip on the Mississippi River and the bombardment of Vicksburg. Kennebec participated in the Battle of Mobile Bay and 1864. At the end of his enlistment, he was assigned to the USS Circassian where he served until the end of his enlistment. Francis died 23 September 1906 at the age of 62. Participating in the ceremony was Camp 54 Commander Rod Fraser, Department Commander John Dupre, Department Chaplain Dexter Bishop, Department of Massachusetts American Legion Commander Sally Nay, Post Commander of the American Legion William E Carter Post 16 Meredith Tuitt, Camp 54 Brothers Daniel Johnson and Joshua Hodge. Camp 54 was joined by the Color Guard of the 1st Military District of the SVR made up of Brothers Kevin Tucker, Charles Lewis, Thomas Potter and Al Smith. Camp commander Fraser presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Hugo Hodge and, son of Camp 54 Brother Joshua Hodge, for his work cleaning the headstones in the Cemetery G AR plot. Camp 54 Commander Fraser participated in the General Benjamin Butler Remembrance Ceremony. Camp 54 held their 1st post Covid in person meeting in December at the Hyde Park Library which is also home of the Hyde Park Historical Society. Society members were on hand to show the Camp Brothers many of the Civil War and GAR related items in their collection. Many of the items were from the Timothy Ingraham GAR Posts 121 including a group photo of the host and the portrait of current Colonel Ingraham that hung in the hall. Camp 54 Commander Fraser participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne to include a Memorial ceremony for the 7 soldiers of the 1st Massachusetts Infantry who were killed during a skirmish known as Blackburn's Ford. Camp 54 Commander Fraser participated in general Ulysses S grant's 200th Birthday ceremony in New York City. Camp 54 Commander Fraser participated in the rededication of the Shaw 54th Memorial on Beacon Street in Boston. Camp 54 Commander Fraser represented the National Commander in Chief as the installing officer at the Department of Florida Department Encampment in St. Cloud Florida. As part of the trip he along with Brother Mellor of Massachusetts and Florida Brothers visited the grave of Corporal Justin M Duncan. Corporal Duncan was originally from Massachusetts and served in Company A of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry. Duncan and listed on 18 February 1863 in Chester Massachusetts. He mustered out 20 August 1865 with his regiment. He was appointed Corporal on 25 May 1865 by Lieutenant Colonel Henry Northey Hooper. The Colonel Robert Gould Shaw Camp held elections on October 21, 2021. The officers elected for 2023 for Camp Commander Roderick Fraser, Senior Vice Commander Peter Preble, Junior Vice Commander Todd Bryda, Treasurer Donald Denning,

Secretary Joshua Hodge and Council Joshua Hodge, Daniel Johnson, Kevin Tucker. Officers were subsequently installed by Commander John Dupre at our December meeting.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. Camp 61? Not here. Camp 104.

Brother Michael Terry: Michael Terry Camp Commander of 104. Our Camp has been fairly quiet for the last year. We have had some health issues in our officer corps. As a result we have not been as active as it would have liked to of been, that should change this year. We are in negotiations to reach agreement on a new meeting space. We are getting very close to getting permission to meet at the National Guard Museum in Concord. One of our new members who came in last year works there and is very close to getting permission to meet their on a monthly basis. We continue to meet on zoom and have had a couple of technical difficulties. We continue to look at restoring the artillery that is in the Lake View Cemetery in Wakefield. The group that we had contacted about that and thought we had solved it a couple of years ago while we had been raising money for that and getting the various permissions, that group is no longer willing to extend that estimate of cost. So we are looking at other outfits to do that. Other than that we are moving forward. Thank you.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. Camp 132? No. Camp 3188? Not here. That concludes the report from the camps. In communications.

Secretary Daniel Murray: We don't have any.

Commander John Dupre: That brings us to unfinished business. Okay we are going to take a break.

BREAK

Commander John Dupre: 1st I would like to ask the Credentials Committee Chairman to give an update on attendance.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Rod Fraser, Senior Vice Commander, Chairman of the Credentials Committee. We had another Brother join, so the new totals in the new totals also include total voting strength which includes Pass Camp Commanders, Past Department Commanders etc. Camp 5 total delegates allowed 3, total present 3. 22 allowed two present 0 total voting strength two. Camp 15 delegates allowed 4 total delegates present 0 total voting strength 0. Camp 25 total delegates allowed 4 total delegates present 0 voting strength two. Camp 26 total delegates allowed to total delegates present 0 total voting strength 0. Camp 50 total delegates allowed to total delegates present 0 total voting strength. Camp 54 total delegates allowed to total delegates present 0 total voting strength present one. Camp 61 delegates allowed to present 0 voting strength 0. Camp 104 delegates allowed 3 delegates present to total voting strength 6. Camp 132 total delegates allowed to delegates present 0 voting strength present 0. Camp 3188 allowed 2 present 0 total voting strength 0. That is my report.

Commander John Dupre: Then we will continue with unfinished business.

Brother Edward Norris: So last year, we had an expenditure for $2000 for the New Hope. The dinner was supposed to be offset by ticket sales. I was wondering how many tickets we sold and what that final cost was. It still says $2000, which means we had no ticket sales.

Council Dexter Bishop: Camp 22 had sold 2 tables.

Brother Edward Norris: So that should've been offset.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: I didn't offset it so that is my fault.

Brother Edward Norris: Okay. So we know how much it was?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: I do but I don't have that figure with me. But I can email it to you Ed.

Brother Edward Norris: No that's all right.

Council Dexter Bishop: Camp 5 also bought a table. So that was at least 3.

Brother Edward Norris: Okay.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: I consider this unfinished business but at last encampment I was asked to with other Brothers to investigate the 2024 location for the 2024 Encampment, Department Encampment. We do not have a location but we did some investigation into locations. We looked into the conference center it Southbridge Massachusetts because it was central to the state and we could attract some people out from Western Massachusetts. It is also near Sturbridge Village it would also give people an alternative thing to do on Sunday with their wives. I contacted them, mostly to get an idea of what everything would cost to get into a facility like that. So for breakfast it was a continental breakfast it will be $16.50 per person, an American breakfast would be $26.14. American breakfast would be scrambled eggs, bacon, potatoes, fruit, yogurt, etc. The lunch buffet at that location would be $35 prefix at that location is includes administrative fees, taxes, etc. A dinner would be $50.74 and that would be garlic Parmesan chicken and at that location is the least expensive meal option they have. I did not get a price yet on meeting room or how much business we would have to do to get the meeting room for free. For that particular location the hotel rates from what I have found researching from all the different hotels range from $125 to $165. Between the lowest to be $125 and the highest to be $165. One thing we should look at is the different options that we can do. One is all in which is everything at one location hotel, overnight accommodations, meeting space and dining. Another option would be the meeting space, on premises dining but not necessarily, and it could be catered at that hotel. People can either come to the day will find a local hotel if they wanted to. The other would be meeting space only and then you would be on the hook for accommodations if you wanted to stay overnight and to find a local restaurant for the meals. Those are things that are worth talking about in the next few months if you want to reappoint that committee Commander.. I will say when I went to the Florida Encampment they had their Encampment any community center and they had their luncheon at a restaurant and whatever you paid for registration at Encampment went towards the lunch and the end of the lunch the the

Department picked up the lunch. I don't know of anybody stayed overnight. I know I didn't but I understand some people did. That is my report but it certainly opens the discussion.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. This raises the discussion of whether we want to do, at National last year, that some Department's only had a one day Encampment, others had 2 days the very few of them had 3 days. Would that be something to think about?

Council Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander. Those Department's like New Hampshire used to have two day encampments. The camp fire on Friday, a day of business sessions be banquet at night. They have reduced it to, and Dan can attest to this, reduced it to a half-day of business, a luncheon and everybody leaves. I went to last year's in New Hampshire and they had about 2 hours worth of business session and if you wanted then they would send out for sandwiches. That is not a way to run this organization. This is supposed to be a fraternal organization, you get together and discuss ideas, we have camaraderie, we develop our approaches going forward. We need to have more activity not less. There is an entrophy to everything, everything is stifling**Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser**: Rod Fraser Camp 54. Whatever I said I was not implicating we don't have a 2 day encampment. I believe everything that Brother Kevin Tucker just said. I think we should have the camp fire, had I not been ill I would get it the camp fire last night, I'm going to be here today I am at the dinner tonight and my wife is also coming to the dinner tonight. So I am a big fan of this. That is one of the reasons I looked at this place and entered Kevin's point we could make it more fun if Brothers could bring their wives and the wives had something to do. This place would be close to old Sturbridge Village and they could organize a trip for the wives to go to Sturbridge Village, spend the money or whatever kinds of things wives want to do. That is just an idea we don't have to do that. I brought that up because, to Kevin's point we need more Brothers to show up at Encampment. It needs to be a fun kind of fraternal event and one that is welcoming to our wives so they want to go. That's what I was indicating by saying the different options are not to shorten it but have everything at a hotel or maybe walk to a different restaurant for lunch. We can look at other things but I am certainly not in favor of a shorter Encampment.

Brother Ed Norris: Do you know when the New England Auxiliary is meeting?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: I can **tell** you that they are meeting at Sister Anna Friel's house, but I do not know the date.

Brother Edward Norris: I met for next year so we can plan to meet with them.

Brother Edward Norris: That's true if we want to bring everyone together.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: I see Anna Frail a lot. I will mention it to her

Commander John Dupre: Yes Al.

Brother Albert Smith: Al Smith Junior Vice Commander of Camp 5. I just have one question, is there is there any continuation for us of staying here in the future?

Brother Ed Norris: Do you know when the New England Auxiliary is meeting?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: I can **tell** you that they are meeting at Sister Anna Friel's house, but I do not know the date.

Brother Edward Norris: I met for next year so we can plan to meet with them.

Brother Edward Norris: That's true if we want to bring everyone together.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: I see Anna Frail a lot. I will mention it to her

Commander John Dupre: Yes Al.

Brother Albert Smith: Al Smith Junior Vice Commander of Camp 5. I just have one question, is there is there any continuation for us of staying here in the future?

Council Dexter Bishop: No as long as you guys decide where you were going to go next year they need about a year's advance notice because they get booked up.

Brother Albert Smith: So there is no pressure on us not to continue.

Council Dexter Bishop: We can stay as long as we want.

Brother Albert Smith: The other question I would like to raise is this, Brother Rod that is a very expensive stay at the Southbridge hotel.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: We don't have to stay there but that is just one place that I investigated just to try to make it more…….. I think that no matter where you go the hotel is nothing to be 50 bucks.

Brother Albert Smith: Is a lot cheaper here. How far is Southbridge from here?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: From here I don't know but from Boston is about an hour and a half.

Brother Al Smith: The reason I am saying is that if we stay here versus going to Southbridge you will that put on more mileage and you're not actually accomplishing anything because people don't really want to be my definition, we will go to Southbridge because it's 5 miles closer or 10 miles closer.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Look around Brother Al when I 1st joined his organization we had thirtysomething people at Encampment. Now we don't. We have to find ways to get people to interest people to come to encampment. This will be the 1st time my wife came to dinner here. If I bring her here what is she going to do all day. The same with other people's wives. We would like to keep our wives happy and go someplace nice and go out to eat someplace nice. If you make it so that the wives want to come and get more Brothers to come. That's just my thought. To go from 30 or 40 people at Encampment to 13 and it is the same usual suspects. Al you are at every single thing this Order does. Charlie is it every single thing this Order does. At the same time I could've sat in my room and filled out this entire spreadsheet with the exception of a couple of Brothers. I could've filled out this entire thing and been 95%

correct and who is sitting here today. Most of our Camps have 0 Brothers here so my hope is that we have to do something and they are not coming here.

Brother Al Smith: Unintelligible as to why so many Brothers don't come. Unintelligible.

Commander John Dupre: Brother Kevin.

Council Kevin Tucker: Just a couple things, Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander. We have had it in Sturbridge before, we have one camp in Western Massachusetts and all of the restaurant are in Eastern Massachusetts. Sturbridge is a middle point but no one from that camp showed up. You had everybody from the east travel all the way out to Sturbridge. That's why we always do it along the 495 or 128 corridor. It is a long ride for the people from Springfield when they show up but it is only about an hour and a half to get to 495. So I would look at that. The other thing, as much as I love this place and it was just us it would be fine but getting wives to come out you need something to do during the day. They don't want to go to the slaughterhouse of the street or whatever but they had something to go to it might bring them in. It be nice if they join the auxiliary but the auxiliary is gone in Massachusetts. If we could get together with the Daughters maybe that would be something to do. If you look at the successful Camps around the country unintelligible, we are going to bachelors and we like doing our thing and that's why this place is great for us. But we have to think about the future and how to build the organization. Even though this place is extremely cheap. Just think of what we paid stay overnight at dinner breakfast lunch and another dinner and breakfast again for $120. Where can you beat that price but that is the trade-off. We kind of have to look to the future. I understand money is tight everywhere but I am with Rod with families involved it might be the best way.

Commander John Dupre: I hear a lot of those arguments in my own Camp. What am I going to do. I have to go home to bring her back but if you bring her car to have 2 cars here at the banquet. Some of the younger guys in my Camp there is no place to go and sit and have a beer with the guys. Unfortunately you can't do that here. But that is another argument for change. As to cost for how much is going to cost the individual, the Department could afford what it will cost, it is the individuals who will have to register for 2 nights or whatever it is and that is the sticking point. I am ready to appoint a committee.

Secretary Daniel Murray: The only point I want to bring up is we are a year out, if you don't take this place within the next week or 2 your committee is going to be tasked with finding a Department Encampment next year and putting it all together. That's the way it is. You are not going to come back here so you will just have to find it. Whoever the committee is will have to do it. Thank you

Commander John Dupre: Is there any other unfinished business?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Rod Fraser Camp 54, Camp Commander. I think it will come up in the budget also but I bring it up as unfinished business. The General Charles Russell Lowell GAR Post project to finish the bases of the cannon. The Historic Cemetery Commission change our plan which is more expensive. We actually got the grant from the

SUVCW charitable for $750 but we need another $550 to get us to the finish line on that project. I think it's in the budget but that's from last year's fund.

Commander John Dupre: Reports of committees. No standing committees to report.

Council Dexter Bishop: Dexter Bishop Camp 5 and 22. We have a question that there was talk about putting a plaque up on Beacon Hill at a particular home. Does anybody know where that has gone?

Secretary Daniel Murray: That was not from last year's encampment so that would not be unfinished business for this encampment.

Council Dexter Bishop: Okay, thank you.

Commander John Dupre: New business.

Council Dexter Bishop: Dexter Bishop, I've heard talk about putting a plaque up on Beacon Hill at this particular building, and I was just wondering what happened.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Rod Fraser Camp 54 Commander. This is a Camp 54 project in the project is putting in historic plaque at 44 Beacon St., the birthplace of Colonel Robert Gould Shaw. It is right down the street from the state house . If you saw the movie Glory you can see the balcony with sisters on the balcony of the house. It is currently owned by an organization. One of our Camp members, whose name is David Hector, is also in the 54th Massachusetts reenacting group. He met with them and said Haley would like to put a memorial plaque, and start marker up, the home of Robert Gould Shaw. They like the idea so he is working with them to get their permission. Then from there we have to go to the city and get permission. So I would say this is kind of a ways out of sight. It's a huge money thing and is between $1500 and $2000 for a plaque. We talked to some Brothers who just put a plaque out and I don't know if you might have saw it on a National webpage so we went to that same company and got some quotes. But it's still a little ways out because we have to get all the permissions from everybody first.

Council Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander. I just want to, again I discussed this before, you said this is a Camp 54 project. If the Department pays for it, it is a Department project. The Department's name goes on the plaque. I think it is only fair if all the other Brothers are contributing to this, if our endowment contributes to this the Department gets the credit for it. Just keep that in mind. I know you Brothers have done a lot of work on getting this together but they are also doing it on behalf of the Department.

Commander John Dupre: Thank you. Is there any other new business?

Unknown: The budget.

Council Kevin Tucker: Brother Commander, Kevin Tucker Department of Massachusetts Past Department Commander and on the Department Council. We have prepared the budget for this year that we are proposing. I tried to delineate what we had last year as opposed to what we have

this year. With your permission we will go line by line, and you can ask if there are any objections. If there is there will be discussion that line and not the whole budget.

Secretary Daniel Murray: I would like to make a motion that the sound of the gavel after each line item once we are finish discussing it at the sound of the gavel it is passed that line item.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: Second

Commander John Dupre: All in favor say aye. Motion passes.

Council Kevin Tucker: Starting at the top, donation to the Rockland GAR Hall. This keep them in fuel for the winter. Last year we spent $1500 and we are proposing to continue the $1500.

Brother Edward Norris: So we heard that the projected is $38,000 and we are now looking at $45,500. That is about $7500 over budget and what we have available.

Council Kevin Tucker: Point of order. We are going line by line.

Brother Edward Norris: I was just pointing out that we are way over. We are not even within any of these. We are over by $7000.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: We have $10,000 in the checkbook.

Brother Edward Norris: Yeah.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: and 39,000…….

Brother Edward Norris: so we should a check and pay 7000……,,

Council Kevin Tucker: We're talking about the GAR Hall.

Brother Edward Norris: All right to donation to the GAR Hall in Rockland. That is $1500. We are not very fiscally responsible. We always go over our budget.

Commander John Dupre: Are there any objections to the $1500 donation for the GAR Hall? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Line two the Lynn GAR Hall, $1000. This goes trustees for repairs, displays, just general maintenance of the Hall. Last year we had $1000 and the proposed budget is to keep it at $1000.

Commander John Dupre: Any discussion? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Next one, Department website hosting this past year we expect $109.45 and it varies a little bit so we gave a little buffer at $175.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Next line is Department Encampment. We spent $3000 last year is what we budgeted and we are proposing the same thing for Department encampment this year.

Brother Edward Norris: So we heard how cheap this place is so hot we spent $3000 last year?

Council Kevin Tucker: Same way we do the year before.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: Printing the proceedings, buying the ribbons, buying the badges, the plastic badges so that is 3 or $400 right there.

Brother Edward Norris: If we spent $3000 here we need more for next year if we move it someplace.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: It depends on what is included.

Brother Edward Norris: I need to know if we need to up this to meet expectations. If you spent $3000 here, you're not going to get a dog will outlast that will $3000 at a hotel.

Commander John Dupre: Brother Al.

Brother Albert Smith: We paid $12 for the meal. These people cannot possibly charge $12 for all we get. They should be charging more.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: We are paying for the meeting room and the meals. You can either subsidize the meals or a full price for them.

Brother Edward Norris: Yes I understand that but I am just trying to figure out if we should double this. $3000 sounds like a lot, but I don't know what they charge for this meeting hall.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: It is the meeting hall, meals, everything for $3000. We bring in…

Brother Edward Norris: We subsidize some of it.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: We subsidize some of it. We bring in $600 or $700. If we had more people staying overnight we would bring in a whole lot more.

Brother Edward Norris: If we move off site we will need more than that.

Council Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander. Commander I disagree with that. I believe $3000 is plenty. For one thing everybody pays their hotel bill no matter where we go. Even if we don't stay at the hotel for our meeting rooms, if we went to a restaurant for the banquet and for our meetings we went off site to the VFW. There are all kinds of possibilities I think we need to wait until the committee comes up with something. I think $3000 should be a limit on what we spend on encampment. For right now we would just work with that inhabit committee work within that budget, rather than increase the budget on an idea.

Brother Edward Norris: I know that meeting rooms are based on room nights and how many meals you buy.

Council Kevin Tucker: Usually it is food and beverage and room nights.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: Unless we get our numbers up they are not going to give us free meeting rooms. A small meeting room in the Courtyard Marriott cost $200 last year.

Brother Edward Norris: That is why I ask what we spent here versus to go off-site. We are going to need more.

Council Kevin Tucker: I agree but even within that budget you should not have to spend more than $500 a day for meeting. If you do you are going to the wrong hotel. I still think we can do it within $3000 without an issue.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Next line item is Department Officers Meeting. Is this up-to-date had $899?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: Yes it is 899.

Council Kevin Tucker: Last year we spent $899 and this coming year, we had budgeted $1200 and we didn't spend it all. But to create a buffer we're saying $1200. We are projecting $1200 for this coming year.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Lincoln birthday brunch, we went over our budget this year. We had to pay the speaker. Sometimes we can get a speaker that speaks for free. Usually they are bringing out a new book so a lot of them will speak for free. The guy we had this year was excellent but wanted to get paid a couple of hundred dollars so we went a little over budget. So again to create that buffer for this coming year we project $650.

Junior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: So Kevin on the $640 is that inclusive of the money you took in for the brunch?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: Yes it is, I had to give an answer for tape. Nodding my head doesn't work.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: The next line is the Benjamin Butler Ceremony. Last year we spent $87 and the proposed budget is $100. At the Benjamin Butler ceremony we purchase a wreath and a new flag.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: The next one is the Project New Hope dinner. We have been donating in the past $2000 to Project New Hope. Project New Hope provides therapy and services for veterans with PTSD and other issues. A lot of it happens here at this facility, they have retreats for veterans and their families. They also have a 2nd one up in Maine that they do. Project New Hope is based out of Worcester and is gaining a lot of traction in that they have food pantries have all kinds of veterans services. They do school supplies, they do winter coats, they do all those kinds of things. So it is a worthwhile charity and we project another $2000 for next year.

Brother Edward Norris: Choses in $2000 donation or that offset?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: It is offset and we probably put it about $700 last year

Council Kevin Tucker: So we have an annual dinner that we all and we give them the check. We charge our members for the dinner that helps to offset some of the $2000 donation.

Council Dexter Bishop: Which by the way is donated by this place.

Council Kevin Tucker: Yes enter is donated but we still charge for the meals.

Council Dexter Bishop: But all the money goes to Project New Hopes.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: The next one is the Secretaries Office. This year we spent $368.57 and we budgeted $500 and we are going to budget another $500 for next year just to have a little bit of a buffer so the Secretary is not short.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Followed by the Treasurer's office. You can see below the of what that amount is broken down to.. We have to have an annual CPA review and office supplies was $230.87 and we have to have tax form preparation. So this last year we spent $3455.87 so again with the office supplies be given little buffer and the tax prep would give it a little buffer. So we are projecting $4000 for next year.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Officers travel, you can see the details down below. The Department commander span $1444.72 which is pretty close to what we budgeted at $1500. The Senior Vice Commander had a $500 budgeted didn't use it any Junior Vice commander the same thing. The Department Secretary at $500 and spent it all, the Department Treasurer same thing and the Department Chaplain same thing. So that total it was $2444.72. We project $3500 we expect full participation at This will help to defray the cost of the hotel room. There is also Department travel to National and these can help everybody get to National.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Rod Fraser Senior Vice Commander, Brother Dan I did submit a travel claim for this past weekend.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: I can't pay that until the budget is passed this year.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: I thought this was for the previous year.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: The books close on March 31

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Thank you.

Council Kevin Tucker: So, we have $3500 for Officers Travel.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Delegate Travel, so this is to National. So we spent $3499 last year and is $3500 we will be putting forth again. The national and a lot of people will be driving but a lot of people be staying overnight in this will help to defray that.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: So, we expect a full delegation at Nashua, so be prepared to go to National. We need representation at National Encampment. The next line is the Remembrance Day trip, last year we budgeted $3500 but this year we have already been informed of the bus going through the roof. What are the bus prices?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: We are paying $7000 this year and with 8 $6200 last year.

Council Kevin Tucker: So that is minus the feed everybody pays every year. You'll probably be over $350 per person this year.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: Was $350 last year.

Council Kevin Tucker: So even with that is a big bite but we did need to raise that amount. So we raise that $1000 from $3500-$4500.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: The next line is Cemetery flag holders. So we have the GAR flag holders and the veteran flag holders. Last year we spent almost $2000 and this year we have budgeted the same.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections?

Brother Edward Norris: I just have a question. Ed Norris. How many flag holders do we have in stock, wasn't it about 500?

Council William Naughton: It was in my report and I don't remember it was two something on the veterans and maybe 58 on the GAR.

Brother Edward Norris: So how many do we get for $2000?

Council William Naughton: Last year we got 158.

Brother Edward Norris: Okay I was just curious.

Council Kevin Tucker: The other thing I want to mention is we are selling the veterans markers and so we can make some money back on those. Obviously we can sell those to other camps and departments and we are not going. To make a ton of money on them. But we can at least get our money back for them. So just keep that in mind.

Brother Edward Norris: We need to get the word out to the Camps.

Council Kevin Tucker: It is up to the Camps have for the other Departments we're going to have them on sale in Nashua. They can order them from us.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder JVC, we will eventually have 70 of them coming back from Camp 104 as the original GAR markers are restored and put back in place.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: Just for information the National Quartermaster orders from the same place we do. He is getting his GAR. the same way we do. He can't get the veterans markers. They have over 200 of the veterans markers and those are the ones we're going to try and push it National because people are looking for those and you can't get them anymore. The foundry only makes GAR markers unless you custom order.

Council Kevin Tucker: So if your Civil War ancestor was not a member of the GAR you can't prove that he was a member of the GAR you would use of veterans marker.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Colors and equipment, we did not spend anything this past year and we are putting in $300 because I think we need some finials and I don't think we need new colors. By the way why thinking about it we have the station banners for your Camp here, today.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Our Camp has station banners.

Council Kevin Tucker: It does?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Brother Dan gave them to us a long time ago.

Commander John Dupre: I have an extra set.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: You actually have two.

Brother Edward Norris: Did we ever find a second set of colors?

Council Kevin Tucker: The 2nd set of colors is with LA Tifft.

Secretary Daniel Murray: That is under new business.

Council Kevin Tucker: The finials are getting pretty old so we put in for $300 for next year same as before.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder JVC, just a point of inquiry could at also be spent on we talked about getting the rest of the host streamers?

Commander John Dupre: We can discuss this under new business. So is there any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: All right next is good of the order and we spent $4642.31. If you look down the list at the details , Chelsea Soldiers Home $2500 for monthly programs plus the annual Christmas party and we paid dues for the members. Holyoke we spent $500 and Dexter bought a smart TV and is able to video program at the Chelsea Soldiers Home and is able to broadcast that to Holyoke. They do not have a Camp yet but we are working on that. But in the meantime the least have access to that programming.

Brother Edward Norris: Isn't Camp 22 for now zooming?

Council Kevin Tucker: That is kind of what they are doing anyways. Dexter will continue to work on that. Originally we were going to do programs in Holyoke so that the $500 budget was.

We had to change that because we couldn't get in there because of Covid. Eagle Scout Awards we didn't spend much this year we are looking to spend a lot more next year so $150 for the for that. ROTC Awards, we get the metal for free and we get the certificates for free. The only cost is for our time so we didn't project anything. It should probably be removed at some point.

Brother Albert Smith: Al Smith ROTC Officer. I would like to know what it would take to change the procedure for the issuance of the ROTC award. What I am finding is this year because of the Covid virus many of the schools and not participate in the last 2, 3 or 4 years. When I have made contact with the school in the last year about the certificate and a badge they will say no we don't. I have to go to the whole spiel about going on the website, get the quartermaster's address to send away for the badge and certificate. What I am finding out is that a lot of schools do not know how to do it or where to go for the certificate and I have a couple upstairs enough for the MIT Navy ROTC program on the 27th. If I didn't have that I would have had to wait for one. I would like to change the procedure and that the ROTC Officer have a supply of them.

Council Kevin Tucker: That would require a change at National. We can't change that. It would require a change it National. You would have to put in a resolution to change the way that it is currently set up. It can be done and you still have time to do it. If you have something in mind write it up and we have always submit it. Is it feasible, probably not. If they are giving you something for free they want to know why.. So you need to read a resolution to have the Department submit it.

Brother Edward Norris: They would take the resolution and send it to programs and policy would look at it and see what they could do to change it.

Council Kevin Tucker: So she made a resolution and submit it to National, it wouldn't be until next year and they would send it to committee will be brought to the floor.

Brother Al Smith: It would be a lot easier and encompass more schools to do it, because they didn't know how to do it in Thank you very much.

Council Kevin Tucker: So we have recruiting and we had budgeted $700 for a number of years.

Commander John Dupre: We skipped one, next is headstone placement and cleaning.

Council Kevin Tucker: I apologize. I retract that last statement. Next is headstone placement and cleaning. Last year we budgeted $1250 and we spent $1231. I don't expect the stones are going to clean themselves so we want to move forward with another $1250.

Unknown: Many gallons do we have in stock?

Council bill Naughton: 30 gallons I believe.

Council Kevin Tucker: I know it sounds like a lot.

Unknown: How many gallons year do we use?

Council bill Naughton: Off the top of my head I am not sure.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: We just got an order in and that's why he has so much.

Unknown: I just wanted an explanation, I didn't want to have a bunch of get that we end up throwing away.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Now as I was saying about recruiting the last couple of years we had budgeted $700 and we have not used it. This year we are going to get some large media and you see this banner here for the Willie Grout Camp, we will get something similar that we can have for the recruiting tent Topsfield fair. So we want to if we can pump up recruiting with that. We are also putting stuff on social media outlet and those kinds of things, we have to find something that works. Topsfield fair if you haven't been is really large and gets us a free table. You need something that is big and attractive to people. One of the things we discussed with Al is that we had some leftover T-shirts from the 2018 encampment that we haven't sold. They are all small and we are pretty well fed so we can give those away to kids or whatever. We are just going to try to pump that up. So rather than the 700 that we usually budget will budget $500.

Unknown: We can also get recruiting and also the quartermaster for free

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Genealogical research is really an ancestry.com subscription. $189 last year and we budgeted $225 this year case they go up.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: The Bourne ceremony. This is our Memorial Day observance for the Department. It is actually called the Veterans Administration Cemetery in Bourne Massachusetts. We do a wreath laying, the Department Commander reads General Order 11 and then we do a ceremony at the graves of the 7 unknown soldiers buried there. We spent $300 last year for the wreath in this year we are putting in $500 to buy new flowers and some flags.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Other good of the order last year we budgeted $1000 and we spent $399.31. We budgeted another thousand dollars in case someone passes away or anything that comes up we have some extra money. So again we budgeted $1000.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: So for the good of the order we spent $5142.31 and we are projecting for next year $6625.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: The traveling trunk. This was something that we talked about last year putting together it just kind of didn't get off the ground. We had some new information, another organization had a traveling trunk we were looking at unintelligible, so went nowhere for a while. Last year we decided to do $1750. The traveling trunk is a trunk that is filled with Civil

War learning, so it could be uniforms, some materials I don't know what else is in there. You ship that the school that requests it, they get the trunk and then open it up and use it as part of their curriculum for teaching the Civil War. When they are done with it they send it back to us. There are other organizations like the American Battlefield trust that do it and they do it very successfully. We also want to glom onto whatever success they are having and we have decided to do our own. So we would like to resubmit that $1750 that we didn't spend last year.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: Wreaths across America, we spent $255 and we been asked for $255 again, same as last year.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: SUV CW history preservation. We spent $219.31 last year and this year we are projecting $500. I think we budgeted $500 last year but we didn't spend it all. You can see the amazing work that Peter and John are doing down in Rockland. It is well worth it. These are things that have been ignored for years and years, we don't even know we had in there. This is a good way to do a hold of that and you can see by the emails that are sent out that there is some very interesting information and some of those past proceedings that John is sending out on the Internet and social media. We think this is a great program to continue and we want to give them another $500.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections? (Sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: 2022 – 2023 Department projects I think we had budgeted $5000 and that was carried over from the previous year. As you heard we have a project going on at Lakeside Cemetery in Wakefield. There are 4 1841 howitzers and there only 10 left in the world. These are 2 ½ ton howitzers that rusting and their need of repair desperately. We as a project, Camp 104, took it on. We got a bunch of people to come look at it and see who would unintelligible it is a Civil War artifacts and you just can't sandblaster it, it has to be done correctly. In order to do that the right way you would have to lift them up, blast it, it is 2 ½ tons now. They have to take them away because they are not going to do it on site. We had some proposals from a couple of those companies and then they backed out. It is something that nobody is really familiar with. Unintelligible stainless that a lot of the statues and monuments around New England that restores them. They wanted $5000 per gun. We were not going to do that. So the original only had was about $1000 per gun any backed out. We have to go back and do some more research but we don't want to give up on the project. Again this is something that is very rare and worth preserving. So again from the $3250 that was spent, was that at Mount Hope?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: No 2250 was spent on Mount Hope in $1000 was spent Camp 25 and the rest should've been for your camp.

Council Kevin Tucker: So again we want to propose the $5000 which will give us $1000 per gun and a little bit of a buffer for other things. The bases need to be cleaned up.

Unknown: How is the 5000 unintelligible for that?

Council Kevin Tucker: The $5000 will be $550 to finish Mount Hope and then the rest of it would go towards this.

Unknown: Do we have any rules and how it will request money?

Council Kevin Tucker. So we passed these requests 2 years ago unintelligible starting forward.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder JVC, Kevin I believe we had only $2000 so I believe the other money is open for other projects.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: Only 2500 is carried over for your project.

Council Kevin Tucker: I stand corrected, 2500 for us, 550 for them and we will just have the……..

Unknown: Are you going to send out to the Camps that there is money available?

Council Kevin Tucker: We did that, we did that already.

Unknown: No for this year.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: I can't find it right now in the minutes but last year there was discussion on if we kept on increasing this budget if they needed to put rules down for Camps to apply to this. That was discussed last year.

Unknown: Was it passed?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: No because they said we were not going to do this again. I'm just telling you what happened last year. The money that was passed last year was for the project that authority been approved the previous year. That's why the figure is $5750. I believe it was Ed that got up and say why don't we have rules to this if we're going to be handing out money. They said it was only a one-time windfall. I'm just going from memory right now. They said if we're going to keep giving the money out then we need to set up a set of rules for the Camps to apply and say what the money is going to be used for.

Commander John Dupre: Does anyone want to make a motion?

Brother Edward Norris: I am going to make a motion that we are going to continue along with Department Projects or give to one's that rules will be set up so all Camps can participate equally.

Unknown: I'll 2nd.

Commander John Dupre: Any discussion?

Council Kevin Tucker: Here's my discussion, I would say that the money that we had 2 years ago should going forward to to Lakeside. The money for Mount Hope should now be discussed, or stop the program. We won't do $5000 a year we will just finished these projects and then we don't have to worry about it.

Unknown: It's good that we keep on doing this, but Camps need to know how to apply for this.

Council Kevin Tucker: There is no secret we send this out every year. We send it out 2 years ago saying if you had projects……

Unknown: Because our Camp 25 requested some money to restore our original camp charter and we didn't get money that year. Now this is secondhand, our project wasn't deemed worthy.

Council Kevin Tucker: That's not why, what we said was that I was on the Council said that if you're going to fix the charter where's it going to go, whose going to owner and to answer that question we couldn't get the money. So they finally answer the question and they were given the money.

Unknown: Okay

Council Kevin Tucker: It is not that it was deemed unworthy, it certainly is worthy but we're not going to fix up a charter and give it away. That would be silly. That is what happened.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: Commander, John Wilder JVC. I will volunteer to draft a set of guidelines for moving forward as I believe this is a worthy for the Department to support the efforts of individual Camps. A set of guidelines is absolutely appropriate so that there can be transparent information for these financial endeavors.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: There is a motion on the floor, the motion is that if we are going to continue Department projects that rules need to be set for the Camp to follow. That is a motion we have to vote on.

Commander John Dupre: Any further discussion? All in favor? Any opposed? Motion passes.

Council Kevin Tucker: That didn't fix the budget issue 2022 – 2023 Department projects we had $3250, we had 1000 for him and 2250 for Mount Hope. We are looking for $2500 plus the $550 so I would amend this to $3050 instead of $5000 for the coming year.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: If we put $5000 in we can just vote on Department Projects.

Council Kevin Tucker: I withdraw that. $5000 is proposed for next year

Commander John Dupre: Any objections (sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: So, we have a new item this year that we really think that we need and that is an electronic bugle. We are having a really hard time finding buglers for our ceremonies. We do a lot of Memorial ceremonies, rededications of monuments, dedications of graves and if we do get a bugler, we don't have anybody did bugles except Ed Knight. He is from Springfield, and he is just not coming anymore. I have looked at electronic bugles and they have one for sale, I put $600 but it is $580. I don't know what the tax and shipping is. It is a big silver bugle in a case with a unintelligible that fits into the bell of the bugle and it is programmable. It sounds perfect. We're just a ceremony in Illinois and the American Legion had it and it sounds perfect. It looks like a bugler and if you stand out in the distance nobody knows. It makes for a great

ceremony, and we should invest in a new bugle. We put forth that $600 should be puts towards the electronic bugle.

Unknown: Who will be the keeper of the bugle?

Council Kevin Tucker: We could either make it the color bearer, somebody from the SVR or whoever you want it to be. It has to be somebody that shows up to almost every event. The color bearer would usually be a good choice. Probably the commander of the SVR.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections (sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: I think the other thing, the next item down is a 8 foot parade banner. We need a parade banner. Nobody knows who we are. We were in Gaspé behind a reenactment unit. Nobody had any idea that we were not part of the reenactment unit. So, nobody knows that the Sons of Union Veterans marched in the Gaspé parade. So, we need to have something we can carry that shows who we are. It can be carried by non-SUVCW people. It can be on a rod and carried by kids. This is an 8-foot parade banner with a retractable pole that will keep it light and that they can walk in parades. I've seen them online for $400. I think this is another thing we should invest in. Again, we have been trying to get the names of the Sons of Union Veterans out there and make sure that it's known. What I envisioned was Department of Massachusetts Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War @SUVCW.org with contact information and not just our name.

Unknown: Is at an 8-foot unintelligible.

Council Kevin Tucker: The unintelligible is 4. Foot maybe 3.

Unknown: Do we really want 8 foot thing?

Council Kevin Tucker: Yeah.

Unknown: That's a standard size..

Unknown: I think we got that one because it will go on a table as well

Commander John Dupre: We've used it at some marching.

Unknown: But we got it to use with the table as well.

Council Kevin Tucker: But in 8 foot banner might be too much for a table but we have talked about it before in the past about a table one for recruiting..

Commander John Dupre: Any objection? (sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: National Encampment assistance. New Hampshire his hosting the National Encampment in Nashua and they do not have the kind of money that we have. So we kind of committed last year to donating money to them to help them out.

Unknown: Last year we agreed to a loan.

Council Kevin Tucker: We didn't give them a loan.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: We didn't spend $2000 last year we spent 0 on that line item.

Unknown: When encampment was and they had money left over it would come back to Massachusetts.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: We said that yes we did.

Unknown: This says donation and that is different. It says donation $2000.

Council Kevin Tucker: To me it is a donation.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: But they will pay you back, I am the chairman of the committee and it will pay you back if they have money. I guarantee that. I'll even throw in a free metal for you.

Council Kevin Tucker: We are also going to have a reception at the encampment that will be hosted by Massachusetts.

Commander John Dupre: Any objections (sound of gavel)

Council Kevin Tucker: And last but not least and this is just in case. Last year we spent $446.12 and this year we are asking for $500.

Treasurer Daniel Murray: This is for gift to the Commander in Chief Andy Auxiliary President.

Unknown: Does this include money for some pages in the encampment book?

Treasurer Daniel Murray: Yes or good of the order it will come out of one of them. I think we have 3 we voted on we're going to vote on.

Unknown: Okay

Council Kevin Tucker: Did we change anything from this?

Commander John Dupre: No.

Council Kevin Tucker: So last year our total Department expenditures were $33,278.88. This year's budget we project and by the way last year's budget we projected $43,000 and change. This year our projection is $45,555 and we don't expect to spend all of that. Our return on investments will be almost 39,000 and there is $10,000 in the checking account. So we have the money, we're not going to have a deficit and we probably will not spent 45. So I think we are okay. I think you will be taking care of out of our investments but if not we have a little bit of. Of a buffer there. So that's it.

Commander John Dupre: Any objection? (sound of gavel)

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder JVC. I would like to make a motion to return the older set of Department colors to the Department Archives.

Unknown: I will 2nd that.

Commander John Dupre: Is there any discussion?

Brother Edward Norris: I don't have a big problem with this. If Camp 25 needs the Department colors out there, if Camp 25 or camp 15 needs Department colors for an event out there how we going to get them out there? Are they going to have to drive all the way to Lynn and then all the way back to Springfield? There is no reason for the additional expenses.

Council Kevin Tucker: As Commander of the SVR, who gets to use the Department colors? The Department not Camp 15. Camp 15 has a camp by. They can bring their Camp flags to what ever they want to. Why are they trying unintelligible colors if they are not the Department colors. We bought new flags years ago because those flags were no good. They were burned, they were put up wet, they were running, all that stuff. They were given to somebody else to use even though they made us spend the money on new colors because the other ones were terrible, now they're not so terrible. So, we just waste the money? Department colors, there should be one set of Department colors. They go with the Department where the Commander is. The SVR has its colors, Camp 15 has its colors. They don't need a set of Department colors. They are not representing the Department; they are representing Camp 15 unless we do a Department event and in that case we will bring the Department colors.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: I will just quickly add that I agree with everything Kevin just said. I was going to mention the Department colors are to represent the Commander so where he goes they go. As we do historical displays with the archives they would feature as a part of our collection.

Commander John Dupre: Any other discussion? The motion is to return them.

Unknown: To the archives

Secretary Daniel Murray: To return the older set of Department colors to the archives.

Brother Edward Norris: Does that include, so that would be both the American flag and the Department flag.

Unknown: So they are not being thrown away?

Commander John Dupre: Right. All in favor? All opposed? Any objections? The motion passes Any other new business.

Brother Edward Norris: Ed Norris Camp 25. I make a motion that we purchased 2 pages in the upcoming National Encampment book, one in support of Kevin running for JVC and also for Rod running for Council of Administration.

Unknown: that was the 3rd one?

Brother Edward Norris: Congratulations to the Commander in Chief and the Auxiliary President.

Unknown: Half page each?

Brother Edward Norris: Yes, there are 2 pages.

Unknown: I'll 2nd that

Commander John Dupre: Any discussion? All in favor? Opposed? The extensions? Motion passes.

Council Kevin Tucker: Just to clarify one full page for the Commander and 2 half pages, one for Rod and me.

Commander John Dupre: Any other new business?

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: I make a motion to purchase the historical National Encampment Host streamers for the Department flag. I will explain if there is a 2nd.

Unknown: I will 2nd

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: We were presented to for the most recent National Encampments we hosted. There are an additional 4 we have a opportunity to buy. One in 1904, 1 in 1971 and 2 somewhere in between. I think he said they were 75 each.

Commander John Dupre: Yes that is what I have been told by Brian Pierson $75.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: And these will go on the Department colors.

Commander John Dupre: Is there any discussion?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Rod Fraser SEC, so this included in this budget we just passed or this new funding?

Unknown: It can come out of good of the order or miscellaneous.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: We just pass the budget I am in favor of the streamers. We just pass the budget, and the streamers were in the budget if they are coming out of something in the budget then there is not additional money.

Council Kevin Tucker: I would amend the motion, a friendly amendment to the motion to state that the funds come from the Good of the Order.

Commander John Dupre: So, this is an additional……

Council Kevin Tucker: Amendment to the motion.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: 2nd.

Brother Edward Norris: What do we do with the streamers, are they going to the archives?

Council Kevin Tucker: The newest ones we have we have put on yet.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: It would go on the flag and if there any older ones that are frayed, we would return those.

Brother Edward Norris: So, we have streamers in the archives?

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: No we have none in the archives.

Brother Edward Norris: I wonder where they all went.

Secretary Daniel Murray: Probably with the old flags.

Brother Edward Norris: This might be some on their. I am thinking of all the Remembrance Day streamers that should be on there.

Council Kevin Tucker: we will take a look they always have the old streamers available in Gettysburg so we can always get the ones we didn't get yet.

Brother Edward Norris: We haven't carried them in Gettysburg in a while. I was wondering about the newest ones if we take them down after a year or so.

Council Kevin Tucker: One of the things, we were just talking, is not the role them up with the colors. If you use them and remove them.

Secretary Daniel Murray: You have a line item for colors and they sell something that screws onto the top underneath the point. Find one of those in then you can unscrew it and the streamers don't get rolled up to in the flag.

Commander John Dupre: Any further discussion? All in favor? Approved Brother Martin would you like to address the encampment?

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: 1st of all I would like to tell you how delighted I am to be here with you all this weekend. This brings back a lot of good memories for me. My wife Rosemary's family and my family got together every year for a camping and fishing trip up in Pennsylvania and it was very reminiscent of your facilities here. The only difference is we caught fish this big. (Laughter.) The Commander in Chief has a laundry list of things he would like presented. The 1st he wanted me to tell you about was the new National website. It went live on April 1. It is a combination of months of hard work and to let you know the old website is no longer available. I have a few copies here of the National Skill set survey of anybody still wants to fill one out. The Commander in Chief is urging all Brother's to participate in lending their expertise to benefit the Order. Several of the SUVCW forms have been have been updated this year including form 3 the membership application form, form 7 ROTC awards application, form 11 certification statement for EIN reporting, form 12 scholarship application, form 17 meritorious service award in meritorious service award with gold star application, form 27 camp annual report, form 30 camp status report and form 35 be Department annual report. So please remember to always get the latest copy from the SUVCW website. It will be a lot better than having to go back and forth and potentially having to redo forms. I am going to start in on one of 2 issues. He wanted to bring up the special order for membership qualifications. Based on research and due diligence the special committee recommended the following changes:
1. Article 3 eligibility for membership; change from all male descendants to all male descendants assigned at birth is biological males.
2. Article 7 membership, same change recommendations but for associate and Junior members.
3, Add a new section 6 article 7 membership that reads; they Brother who has been duly elected to membership in the order shall not be subsequently disqualified for membership or the discharged from the order solely because of that Brothers change in gender or sexual orientation.
4 Chapter 4 article 10, change all male descendants to make all male descendants biologically

assigned as male at birth.
5 on form 3 of the membership application to be amended to change the declaration to I am a male assigned at birth as a biological male.

Council Kevin Tucker: This is not something we need to pass and that this will be brought up a National Encampment. What they are looking for is a straw poll of how we feel about it. We are not changing anything by our vote. They are looking to see if there is support for. I am too close to it and will not comment too much on it. Just be aware you are not changing anything today.
Brother Edward Norris: Ed Norris, so what is going to happen is the National encampment requires a change to the Constitution. So, we can vote on it there, but it still doesn't become official until it goes back to the Departments. So, if we pass it this year it will go to the Departments next year it has to be ratified by over 50% of the Departments, so we're going to have a chance to vote on this next year. Once it becomes ratified that it becomes the rule. Some of the stuff like the forms that can't change until we get all the changes through the Constitution. It is going to take a while to get through, so it is not happening in August.

Brother Michael Terry: Michael Terry Camp 104. My question would be if someone is identified as male birth is now female who that person fearful to join the Sons?

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: each one states change all male descendents to all male descendents assigned at birth is biological males.

Brother Michael Terry: so we can have someone who identifies as a woman today living as a woman dressing as a woman acting as a woman because that person at birth was identified as a male that person to be a member of the Sons.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: Correct.

Brother Michael Terry: That changes fundamentally the complexion of the Order

Commander John Dupre: Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Rod Fraser SVC, I guess I am confused by this. As it was explained to me before that the change was so it would keep this a male order. You are saying that this change would allow someone who is transgender to become a female would now be allowed to join. So, we can have transgender females in our organization. Is that what this would change?

Brother Edward Norris: anyone who was born is a male can join. A female who trans cannot join even though she is now living as a male.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Someone who is born a male and transgender's to become a female you are saying they can join.

Brother Edward Norris: Correct.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: So right now, it says you have to be a man.

Brother Edward Norris: It is a proposed change from what I understand there has been a lot of research on a lot of other organizations and everything else unintelligible and this is how they felt. A person is born a male and it doesn't matter what they are living their life as in the future.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: But if they identify as a female then why are they not a male. So, I am wondering unintelligible so that is my question.

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: John Wilder JVC, to answer this unintelligible at a national level of another organization. To answer your question what this is saying is that regardless of what they transition to someone is born a male transitions to a female we don't recognize that on the reverse would have to recognize someone who was born a female and transgender's to male. So it does open the opportunity for someone who identifies as a woman joining and I have found as an aside with fraternal organizations that they are not interested in that. But basically, what it does open is that to admit one you don't have to admit the other side of that. Basically, what this is saying is an organization we don't recognize transition at all. That is why that opens us up.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Then why is the other language in there that if a Brother transitions we can kick him out. It makes no sense.

Brother Edward Norris: because he is still a male. This organization is based on male heredity. So, if you are born a man you can join, if you are born a female, you can't, no matter how you transition.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: So why are we trying to change this?

Brother Edward Norris: It is to avoid future issues should they arise.

Brother Michael Terry: I think it is to avoid a person was born a female and now identified as a man from joining the Order. I agree with that. As an aside what we are talking here it is a very small percentage of the population at large. Still, I have the concern that if you could have the nature of this organization change fundamentally you limit to those who are born male in the sentence. Perhaps you could consider adding additional wording in the identifies and continues to live as a male. Because I do think we open ourselves up to the flag carrier who says I'm going to join the Sons. I looked at that language I was born a male and now living as an I will break into that organization. I think additional language is needed.

Commander John Dupre: Al.

Brother Albert Smith: Al Smith Camp 5 SVC, my concern is man to woman, woman to a man, what does the federal government say. They haven't even come out with it what do states rights say as far as how we treat this. We had Massachusetts a man is a woman, and a woman is a man that New York State has their own interpretation of the law. Wait until the federal government comes out with the definition with what a transgender person has the right to. Wait until the federal government with the Supreme Court comes out with the transgender unintelligible 1st before we start getting involved with a man that is a woman it woman that is a man. We don't have a definition yet. We should wait until the federal government the Supreme Court says this is

what a transgender person has the right to their lead what their legal rights as a citizen are. I think we are putting the cart before the horse because we don't know what the government wants to do yet. So why don't we just put this question on hold until something more definitive comes up. If we go with this motion is federal government says we are going to go this route than this is a waste of our time.

Brother Edward Norris: We would have to change it. We cannot break federal law. If there is anything wrong with our Constitution, Rules in Regulations we would have to change it.

Brother Albert Smith: So wait until the federal government comes out with guidelines for the Supreme Court.

Brother Edward Norris: we are trying to be proactive and other organizations are doing the same. Somebody could sue us tomorrow so we're trying to get ahead of. This is not been an easy thing for National to come up with.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: I was on the committee. I was the only nonlawyers as I was frequently reminded. They're trying to get ahead of it and it did contact several other organizations to see what they've done work they're doing anything. The only difference with this is if you read it as intended once a member always a member is the 2nd part of. Several other organizations we had contacted of said you are no longer a male your., they thought this was the one most of them were headed towards. They just wanted to get ahead of the curveball here and try to protect us.

Brother Albert Smith: The other problem that concerns us is are you're going to get religious.

Unknown: We are nondenominational.

Council Kevin Tucker: The impact of this is if we don't pass this we could get sued. This is an activist committee right now, so what do we say.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: it will all come up on the floor of the encampment. That is why the Commander in Chief wants this brought up before everybody because of all the encampments that are coming up. There are a couple of big issues and we really need to have feedback if you are not going to be able to make it to National board you have comments or want to have information presented then one of your delegates should take and bring it to the Encampment.

Commander John Dupre: Yes Sir.

Brother Richard Nichols: Richard Nichols Camp 104. My brother was at a service that he was attending as a Council member for the South Hampton Baptist Church and this is what he said unfortunately. He said you are not reading the Bible and discussing sexual information before young children so he quit. His wife is still going with his 2 grandchildren that this is basically becoming a unintelligible so that they can bring in members for the church. Anyway unfortunately we don't want somebody walking in to this meeting as a man representing sons Sons that this unfortunately what is going on. I am bringing this up now because my brother

unfortunately was wholeheartedly into the church is a Council member and he is out because he couldn't go along with thank you

Unknown: How many of these are there?

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: There is 5 of these to vote on and they are all very similar. They're changing the verbiage from male to assigned as male at birth. So we are just getting an idea now for the Encampment.

Brother Edward Norris: We don't need a motion, this is just a straw poll if you're going to National Encampment would you vote for that language?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: there is a lot more discussion and information that will be brought out and it Encampment in order to make your final decision.

Brother Edward Norris: If this passes it National will be voting on it next year. You will need over 50% of the Departments to ratify.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: I will provide the information from this Encampment to Commander Chief

Commander John Dupre: We will break for lunch. Will the Chaplain please close the Bible.

Lunch

Commander John Dupre: Before we proceed with the rest of the meeting we are going to proceed with an initiation.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: Guide present the candidate to the altar.

Brother Gerald Hayes is initiated into the Order using the short form.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: The next issue is lineage documentation requirements. According to the Commander in Chief there is undefined statement in the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. This undefined statement with supporting documentation relates to the membership application form 3. On 23 September 2022 Commander in Chief Frail issued General Order 54 the restoration of lineage documentation. On 5 October 2022 he withdrew General Order 5 issued General Order 7 to further clarify supporting documentation. Lastly he ordered General Order 11 and in this order he withdrew General Order 7 due to concerns raised by Camp and Department Officers related to the added workload of these officers and the speed in which this concept was brought into play. He further requested recommendations be sent to the National Committee on Constitution and Regulations and should do so within all current guidelines to get this recommendation on the floor of the National Encampment by this August 2023. So we have 2 ways to go about this. You can go the quick route of saying that everybody can look through their General Order 5, 7 and 11 and they can then direct their comments to their delegates or directly to the Commander-in-chief or I can go through all of these one by one.

Unknown: The quick route. Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: Is that okay with everyone. That is what I would recommend. If you want to see any of these things I have them with me, all 3 orders if anyone at the break would like to come up and take a look. You should have seen these by this point. That was easy.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: This particular order if you look through the history and see what is going on here or if you read the Constitution, Rules and Regulations that says a Camp, the Camp Commander will assign investigating committee for a new member. They will look over the documentation and make a recommendation. That is all it says. So basically the preponderance of the evidence if a Camp wants to vote you in, they can vote you in. What they Commander in Chief is trying to say was a there has to be some basic proof. There is also instructions and the Constitution, Rules and Regulations that you have to have evidence that your ancestor served honorably. So you have to have a service record or report of the Adjutant General. You have that and you have to have some lineage documents. My view of what the Commander put out is pretty liberal in the lineage documents. You can have census records and it is pretty broad. It wasn't quite Sons of the American Revolution/Mayflower Society type documentation. I think most of us when we joined as hereditary members provided these documents. It obviously doesn't apply to Associates. I think everyone here submitted those documents when they joined and all we're trying to do ,or they are trying to do at the National level is kind of codify that. So everybody has the same requirements instead of just leaving it up to the Camp to decide whether or not, I didn't think it was onerous when it came out as General Order 5 and I was kind of surprised there was so much opposition to it. Since I am running for Council of Administration I have been getting phone calls asking me if I am supporting this. People are saying we are trying to get new people into Camps instead of keeping people out. I don't think it will keep people out, but that is just my view. It is not like trying to prove people were on the Mayflower. It's only a couple of generations and that's all I have to say. Thank you.

Commander John Dupre: Kevin.

Council Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander, I tend to disagree with Rod on this. I think what this has done is make it a little tougher to become a member. It makes it tough for you to become a member. It makes it tough on everybody when you go down the line. You have to have records, your parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, back to your Civil War ancestor. That is going to be tough on Department Secretaries. How many people here have had investigating committees and their Camps? So 2 camps. The rest don't have that. Rod doesn't think it is onerous because he belongs to the To Be American Revolution, but for the rest of us the General Order adds a lot of work and a lot of documentation. I get it the Commander In Chief wants to make it so everything is completely provable. I am not sure we have an issue with that anyone I'm not sure there is someone trying to fool everybody else into joining the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil For, if you have documentation that you have an ancestor that served without going through all of the documentation search. It is onerous, try it. If you can show what we have in the past and have the camp vote when I think that should be enough. I just think this is going to cause a lot of work. It is hard enough to get new members and now we're going to make it more difficult. I think it is just like that then we voted on. It's hard enough to get new

members and we are going to turn away members because they are turned off. This is another case of those things we vote on at National, so we don't get to decide anything today. He just wants to prep you for what is coming up the Commander in Chief qualities it needs to be codified, it needs to be straightforward. I think we are doing okay the way they are and so I think we just have a difference of opinion.

Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin: so what I have heard so far from a fair number is that the gains of some of the things he is allowing hand here have options for documentation and all that they are bringing in to outweigh the work that has to be done by the Junior Vice Commander both at the Camp and Department level. There is a lot of documentation that is now going to required to be kept. So, you have to have even if you are doing, I believe in this it states you have to have one hard copy and you can have additional copies. It is definitely going to put some more workload at those levels. What I am hearing is that some of the Camps there is concern already about getting Junior Vice Commanders. They're putting more and more work on them, and it is going to be harder to get somebody to volunteer to do the work. I understand what he is trying to do but it does put more work on our Junior Vice Commanders.

Council Kevin Tucker: I have another question. Kevin Tucker Past Department Commander. Is this going forward or do you have to go back through all of our Camp members and get those who did not provide the documentation to provide it. It says in the wording he is going to present this at Encampment. If he doesn't n can you imagine what that is going to be like.

Junior Vice Commander Kevin Martin: Everyone will be grandfathered.

Council Kevin Tucker: Says that in the wording that it will be presented at National Encampment.

Junior Vice Commander Kevin Martin: Grandfathered.

Council Kevin Tucker: We will see.

Council William Naughton: Bill Naughton Camp 104, Department Graves Registration Officer. Why are we concerned with the hard copy. It may cost a lot for some of the prospective members to get something out of the National Archives or whatever and they are backed up by about 18 months. At some point if we wait 18 months for somebody to get a piece of paper from NARA that is available on ancestry, they have already joined some other organization or coaching Little League or they are doing something and I'm afraid the candle will have gone out.

Junior Vice Commander Kevin Martin: At National this past year we have taken a lot to digitize what is in the National Records of Headquarters. They really only want the digital copies. I don't know why it is written the way it is.

Council William Naughton: Thank you.

Commander John Dupre: Any further discussion?

Secretary Daniel Murray: Daniel Murray, the thing about the Sons of the American Revolution of the have a dedicated genealogist. Number 2 they keep track of all the records all you have to

do is prove back to that ancestor. You have to prove the ancestor service because it is usually already in the records that makes a big difference when I joined the Sons of American Revolution you had to prove each generation with the document regeneration. They still had a genealogist who went through the stuff. Most Department's board Camps don't have a genealogist.

Brother Edward Norris: We do look things up on ancestry. All of the Massachusetts service records are in Concord Massachusetts.

Junior Vice Commander Kevin Martin: The last thing you have to hear from me today is Commander in Chief Frail is encouraging all Departments to send a strong delegation to National Encampment. As you can see there are many important topics and discussions to vote on that will occur this year at Encampment. The membership qualifications, the lineage documentation this year at the National encampment and have all comments directed to your delegates and or directly to the Commander in Chief. With that, thank you.

Council Kevin Tucker: I believe that this department is entitled to 8 delegates. Is that correct?

Secretary Daniel Murray: 8 delegates.

Council Kevin Tucker: So that is 8 delegates, not PDC or PCinC, so we need 8 people from amongst those here so we can have a full delegation. Even if there is more people than that we can use assistance. In the you think you are not going you could be nominated and if you accept and don't go an alternate can replace you.

Commander John Dupre: we're still under new business. Something I have from Camp 26 that I would like to bring up. They're having trouble filing their EIN IRS report.. There are several Camps that have not filed in a number of years. The question is whether the Department can assist them with the cost of reestablishing their nonprofit status. Camp 26 hasn't filed in over 3 years.

Secretary Daniel Murray: it would cost $600 per Camp. I know what it is as I had to file for the 1st Military District. I did it for $450 because it was under a year. Over one year is like filing for a brand-new

Commander John Dupre: The last thing I want to bring up is the state of the Department website. The question is do we investigate what it is going to cost to replace it.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Rod Fraser Senior Vice Commander. Commander on the website before we spend money on it I have no idea what can be done with our current website configuration. I would suggest since you appoint the webmaster that you see if there is a Brother who has that skill in the Department who might want to volunteer to replace the current webmaster and fix the website.

Council Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker PDC. My question is the website is really bad. Jack has been doing it a long time and it was not great when he started. Do we want to go professional? It is a fairly simple website, not a lot to it. A list of things but we don't have the banner publish on it for the General Orders. We could add these kinds of things. I recommend that the incoming

Commander appoint a committee to investigate costs and compare that. We have been trying to relying on Brothers with that skill for a while and has been a long time. It was fine in 1995 and now it is just like the National website, they spent the money, and it looks great now, a huge difference over what it was like last year. So maybe it is worth a try. The other thing is to keep in mind that websites are like the Yellow Pages, but most people don't read through them. They read social media pages. But it is worth thinking about.

Commander John Dupre: Any other discussion? That brings us to the nomination of Officers.

Council Kevin Tucker: Can we do Good of the Order.

Commander John Dupre: Okay.

Council Kevin Tucker: Kevin Tucker PDC. I am also the Commander of the if we had met the minimum number of people the parade required. That could have gone into the fund to buy more uniforms flags Military District Sons of Veterans Reserve. For those of you who do not know the Sons of Veterans Reserve is the military and ceremonial arm of the SUVCW. They are part of the show that the public sees only do rates, Memorial programs, ceremonies and those types of things. We are a service organization and one of the things that we service is our old organization. One of the things that we want to make sure we take care of is our own organization. Between hosting National Encampment in joining the Sons of Veterans Reserve you can't do much better than that in helping the organization. The Sons of Veterans Reserve marches in parades and ceremonies, education and all the other things that without them we are a round table. I highly suggest any of you that can join the Sons of Veterans Reserve, if you can afford the uniforms try to get one or we have some spares. We need people to show up. Again and Gaspé Rhode Island we only had 4 people show up to march. There are over 100 people in Sons of Veterans Reserve in New England. It is getting harder and harder to get people to show up. We used to do drilling in Lynn. People that do that are the same people that show up, Charlie, Dexter, Al and maybe one or 2 others that show up these things. They are important because they are what the public sees. We're not trying to be reenactors, we are just trying to show that respect to Civil War veterans in a way that the general public can look at. I would admonish all of you to join the Sons of Veterans Reserve for $4 a year.

Brother Edward Norris: To go up?

Council Kevin Tucker: Two for us and two for National. So it is $4 a year, not the end of the world. Think about it, think about getting uniforms. Just like anything else the one thing we have as you can see by the budget this morning's money. One thing we need is people and their time. We are not talking about top priority. We are talking about an hour or 2 a month. Whatever we can pull out. If you did an 1 hour or 2 hour parade once a month I'd be the happiest guy on earth. We have all kinds of people. We went from having about 20 people, then a dozen people, down to 4 people since Covid over the past few years. We have to get that back up again. I am urging all of you to participate in that.

Unknown: You are the color guard for the encampment as well.

Council Kevin Tucker: Usually but we're going to have a Naval unit present the colors.

Senior Vice Commander Rod Fraser: Rod Fraser Senior Vice Commander. I am a member of the Sons of Veterans Reserved, now most of you guys know what that is. I did the Gaspé parade with 4 guys in brother Charles Lewis one of them and you March the whole way. There was the Kevin Brother David Dugan from Rhode Island and brother Charles. Brother Al, Brother Dexter were there and didn't march. They were doing public relations and taking photographs and stuff like that and doing that kind of thing. We could have got paid for that parade if we had met the minimum number of people the parade required. That could of gone into the fund to buy more uniforms, flags or whatever the Sons of Veterans Reserve needs. So if you could please take this back to you Camps can encourage people to join the Sons of Veterans Reserves. We would certainly like to have you. I enjoyed marching in the Gaspé parade and can't some other stuff like towns that refurbish their Civil War memorials and asked us to come and participate in that. There is a new Civil War memorial that is being put in the town of Dedham and it is dedicated to a citizen in the town of Dedham. He was an escape slave who joined the United States Navy and then after the war he moved to Dedham where he raised his family. He was Commander of the GAR post there. They are doing a rededication for him, and his name is William Gould. We have been asked to participate in that. As to Kevin's point we don't want to show up with 2 guys. We want to show up with a good group of guys. Please take this back to your Camps.

Commander John Dupre: I have one last thing for the Good of the Order. I was contacted by Oaks Grove Cemetery in Falmouth. They are doing a, probably revitalizing the veterans, a Civil War plot dedication ceremony. It is the GAR plot at the Oaks Grove Cemetery and they are working to reconditioning and cleanup the gravestones and stuff. They are basically doing to events. The 1st is on June 10 and that is the day they want to do a dedication ceremony. Brother Michael Rice said he would attend that and probably read the vacant chair. I was hoping to get the Sons of Veterans Reserve but not sure that can happen. The follow-up date is June 17 and they will basically have a walking tour that goes through the GAR lot and other Civil War veterans graves. I intend to attend that one. So I would encourage anyone who has some free time on those days to go down to Falmouth and participate.

Secretary Daniel Murray: I thought they were going to flip the dates.

Commander John Dupre: They were going to and then when I couldn't get them anymore people they went back to the original dates. The dates that Artie been published. They decided to keep with the original dates, the dedication on June 10 in the walk on June 17. Both of them will be at 4 PM on a Saturday.

Council Kevin Tucker: The next thing we have coming up is a ceremony in Charlestown and it is coming up at the end of the month. The big thing for this Department is Bourne and that is coming up. It is the Sunday before Memorial Day. The Commander will read General Order 11. We lead the parade into the National Cemetery and the veterans and fraternal groups follow behind us. We are leading them into the Cemetery. We have a ceremony at the parade grounds, wreath laying ceremony, a flyover by the Air Force or the Coast Guard base next-door. Sometimes a gun salute by the artillery. When we are finished with that, we go to the 7 Civil War unknowns buried there. This is a big event for Massachusetts each year. Every camp has their own Memorial Day observance. Camp 5 has theirs on the Thursday before and also on Monday

they have a parade. Some of the other Camps, I know Worcester does the Water Ceremony. This will be on Sunday and there is not much going on on Sunday. That's why they hold it on Sunday because all of the Veterans Organizations do something on Monday. So I hope everyone will make every effort to come out. If you come out in uniform fine or you can come out like this with a jacket and tie with your medals on. We used to have over 20 people, sometimes 30 people marching. It is down to 4 again, we probably had 8 last year. It hasn't been back to those pre-Covid levels. Whatever you can do whatever you can bring back to your Camps, remember the Sunday before Memorial Day noontime at the Veterans Administration National Cemetery in Bourne, meet at the front gate and the parade steps off at 1 PM.

Commander John Dupre: I have contacted the Director of the Cemetery. They used to be there was a local veterans group that organized it all, but he has now taken that on himself. I sent them an email expressing our desire to be a part of it but I haven't heard back. So I am going to email him again and make sure. He had no objection to our meeting General Order 11. One real change is he doesn't want people carrying wreaths over and placing them. He wants them placed ahead of time. Then you go over in front and salute. I guess he has seen some people fall in the past. Anything else for the Good of the Order before we begin nominations?

Council Kevin Tucker: Before we begin we should get a report from Brother Rod.

Commander John Dupre: Rod.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Commander there has only been one change in that is the Camp Commander from Camp 25 has now joined us which brings the total for Camp 25 up to 3 and there are no other changes.

Secretary Daniel Murray: What about Brother Hayes?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: he was not included in our total.

Secretary Daniel Murray: Commander.

Commander John Dupre: Yes.

Secretary Daniel Murray: Just a quick public service announcement, anyone who wants to be a like number should do it before the next Encampment. The rates are going up drastically and if you want to look at the charts they are up here. What they currently pay them what you will pay. This is the chart they are looking at the put in and now is the time to do it if you want to do it.

Unknown: What about Associates?

Secretary Daniel Murray: Not Associates. The only one that makes out in the new one is if you are over 85. You have 3 years to pay if you sign up now. You still have to pay full duly feared Camp until the life membership is paid off.

Brother Edward Norris: even though you are Like Member you are still responsible for the Camp portion of your dues.

Commander John Dupre: Anything else? We are now going to do nominations for Officers. The 1st nomination is for commander.

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: I would like to nominate Commander John Dupre for Commander of this Department.

Secretary Daniel Murray: Will you accept.

Commander John Dupre: I will. Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Nominations for Commander are closed.

Brother Edward Norris: I will make a motion that the Secretary cast a ballot for any uncontested position.

Secretary Daniel Murray: I will 2nd that.

Commander John Dupre: Any discussion? All in favor? Motion passes. The next nomination is for Senior Vice Commander.

Council Kevin Tucker: I nominate Brother Rod Fraser for Senior Vice Commander of this Department.

Commander John Dupre: Will you accept?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: I will.

Commander John Dupre: Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Nominations for Senior Vice Commander are closed. The next nominations for Junior Vice Commander.

Council Kevin Tucker: I nominate Brother John Wilder.

Commander John Dupre: Do you accept?

Junior Vice Commander John Wilder: I guess so.

Commander John Dupre: Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Nominations for Junior Vice Commander are closed. The next position is Secretary/Treasurer.

Secretary Daniel Murray: No Council is next. I'm just following the form.

Commander John Dupre: Any nominations for Council 1?

Council Dexter Bishop: I nominate Kevin Tucker.

Commander John Dupre: Will you serve?

Council Kevin Tucker: Yes

Commander John Dupre: Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Nominations for Council 1 are closed. We will now except nominations for Council two?

Council Kevin Tucker: I nominate Dexter Bishop.

Commander John Dupre: Will you accept?

Council Dexter Bishop: Yes I will.

Commander John Dupre: Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Nominations for Council two are closed. Now it is Secretary/Treasurer. Are there any nominations for Secretary/Treasurer?

Senior Vice Commander Roderick Fraser: Commander I would like to nominate Brother Daniel Murray.

Commander John Dupre: Will you accept?

Secretary Daniel Murray: I accept.

Commander John Dupre: Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Nominations for Secretary/Treasurer are closed.

Secretary Daniel Murray: We need to elect delegates.

Council Kevin Tucker: I nominate Matthew Sargent for a Delegate.

Commander John Dupre: Do you accept?

Brother Matthew Sargent: I accept.

Council Kevin Tucker: I nominate Michael Terry for a delegate.

Commander John Dupre: Do you accept?

Brother Michael Terry: I will.

Secretary Daniel Murray: I'll nominate Albert Smith, Charles Lewis, John Wilder and Roderick Fraser.

Commander John Dupre: Do you all except?

They all answered yes.

Unknown:How many is that?

Secretary Daniel Murray: That is 6.

Council Kevin Tucker: I nominate Richard Nichols.

Unknown: I would like to nominate Dan Geary. As the Commander of Camp 104.

Secretary Daniel Murray: That is 8 in less you want to nominate more and have a runoff.

Commander John Dupre: Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Are there any other nominations? Nominations for delegates are closed. Now we need to do alternates.

Unknown: I would like to nominate all members of the Department in good standing as of this date as alternates.

Commander John Dupre: Is there any discussion? All in favor? Any opposed? Motion passes next is installation. We are going to take a short break.

Break

Officers installed according to ritual by Junior Vice Commander in Chief Kevin Martin.

Commander John Dupre: There being no further business to come before this Encampment, we will proceed to close. You will give attention while the Chaplain asks the blessing of God on our deliberations. Parade rest.

Chaplain Dexter Bishop: our father in heaven, we pray you will deal with the events of this meeting as you deem proper and fitting. Please answer the heartfelt prayers of each one of us as permitted in your perfect will. Preserve us in health, strength and integrity while we remain here and when our mission on earth is ended take us to a better world amen.

Commander John Dupre: Brothers we are now about to leave this Encampment to retire to our respective homes. Let us regulate our conduct so as to bring honor and credit upon the great patriotic organization we represent. May we be faithful to our vows, mindful of our duties and exhibit toward each other and unbroken fraternity a tender charity in unswerving loyalty. Color Bearer attend to the altar and station banners. Attention, I now declare the 141st Annual Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War duly closed.

Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
2023 Annual Encampment
Senior Vice Commander's Report

Brothers
As the Department Senior Vice Department Commander, I participated in the following events:

- Veterans Day headstone dedication ceremony for US Navy Landsman Thomas B Francis at the Gen, Charles Russell Lowell GAR Plot at Mt Hope Cemetery in Boston.
- General Benjamin Butler Remembrance Ceremony.
- Memorial Day Ceremony at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne to include a memorial ceremony for the 7 soldiers of the 1st Massachusetts infantry who were killed during a skirmish known as Blackburn's Ford.
- General Ulysses S. Grant's 200th Birthday ceremony in New York City.
- Rededication of the Shaw 54th Memorial on Beacon Street in Boston.
- Represented the National Commander in Chief as the installing officer at the Department of Florida Department Encampment in st. Cloud, FL.
- Prepared and published the Department newsletter, the Clarion Call.
- Served on the 2023 National Encampment Committee.
- Appointed to the National Marketing and Promotions Committee.
- Attended the 67th Annual Lincoln Tomb Ceremony, sponsored by the SUVCW and MOLLUS, commemorating the 157th Anniversary of President Lincoln's death. It will be held at the Lincoln Tomb in Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield, IL at 10 AM on Saturday, April 15, 2023.

Submitted
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

R J Fraser Jr
Roderick J Fraser Jr.
Department Senior Vice Commander

SUVCW Department of Massachusetts Annual Encampment April 22nd, 2023

Report of Department Junior Vice Commander John Wilder, Camp 104

In the past year I have received a small number of membership inquiries forwarded to me from the Junior Vice Commander in Chief. I put them each in contact with the Camp closest to them. I also received a couple direct inquiries and directed them in a similar manner.

In conjunction with Department Historian, Peter Preble, great progress has been made on the Department Archives. The greatest achievements being the archival storage of all archived charters and the digitization of all historical proceedings of the annual department encampments which are now available online.

I was pleased to travel with the Department Commander to visit Camp 50 in Rockland for one of their meetings.

I worked with the Department Senior Vice Commander to develop a general membership certificate.

I worked to locate and inventory Department owned equipment and other items. Efforts are ongoing.

April 20, 2023

Commander Dupre,

All of the Department reports required by National since last Encampment have been submitted on time.

Since the last Encampment, no Camps were suspended for failure to submit the Annual Report. The current Department strength is 168 Brothers. Last year our Department strength was 165 Brothers.

The total number of Camps in the Department is 11 .

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel W Murray, Secretary

o

March 31,2023

Dear Commander Dupre,

As of March 31, 2023, there is $10,334.87 in the checking account and $34919.76 in the savings account. The current value of the Trusts and CD's is $181,286.60. The current market value of the Wells Fargo fund is $852,335.03 which is a decrease of 101,980.80 from last year. The projected annual income from that account is now $38,883.00 which is a $9,904.00 increase from last year.

Total assets for the Department as of March 31 are $1,078,876.26.

Respectfully Submitted,

Daniel Murray, Treasurer
Department of Massachusetts

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

Department of Massachusetts

GAR Highway Officer Report

There was no sign when you enter Massachusetts on 6E from Rhode Island.

On 6 East, I was able to locate 11 GAR Memorial Highway markers, including the sign in Provincetown marking the Eastern end of the highway.

1. Swansea, on the right
2. Westport, center median
3. Dartmouth, center median
4. Wareham, on the right
5. Sandwich, center median mile marker 56.2
6. Barnstable, on right near marker 67.8
7. Near mile marker 78.4, center median
8. Near mile marker 90.2 on the right
9. Wellfleet, on the left side
10. Eastham, on the left, obscured by a utility pole.
11. Provincetown, on the right

On 6 West, I was able to locate 12 GAR Memorial Highway markers, including the sign in Provincetown marking the Eastern beginning of the highway.

1. Provincetown, on the right, not directly across from the eastbound, it is 3 intersections further west.
2. Eastham, on the right
3. Wellfleet, on the right
4. Near mile marker 90.2 on the right
5. Near mile marker 78.4, center median
6. Near mile marker 77.4, on right, difficult to see
7. Near mile marker 69.8 on the right
8. Sandwich, center median mile marker 56.2
9. Just before Sagamore Bridge on right during construction
10. Wareham, on the left
11. Westport, center median
12. Swansea, on the left

Several of the signs are not easy to spot as they are behind poles or foliage. A few towns have markers for both directions on the same side or in the center of the highway, making it harder to spot them unless you are looking for them.

Two towns have markers memorializing the highway for other groups.

Fairhaven has signs indicating it is Fairhaven Firefighters Memorial Highway.

Barnstable has signs indicating it is the Korean War Veterans Highway.

These are both worthy groups and I do not believe we should fight to remove the signs that they have put up.

Submitted April 27, 2023

In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

George Maple, PDC

Graves Registration Officer
Department of Massachusetts
Report to the Encampment
April 2023

Since our previous Encampment and through the efforts of Brothers, the Department's Camps and other interested citizens, 326 previously unlisted Union veterans have had the information about their service and their burial places recorded in the National Graves Registration database. Additionally, a large number of those veterans who were previously recorded had additional information added and/or information corrected to make these records more useful and valuable.

At present there are 31,608 burial locations of Civil War soldiers, sailors and marines recorded in Massachusetts and are now available for family historians, genealogists, and other interested parties on the National database. This number represents a great deal of work by our Brothers and others through the years and is a tribute to their efforts to keep alive the memories of the boys in blue.

Despite the 31,608 records of CW veterans buried in Massachusetts, there is still much work to be done when one realizes that 102,252 men served in Massachusetts units or in Federal service credited to Massachusetts.

Not only were burial locations recorded in the National database, but a number of these locations were marked with grave markers. The Department presently has 342 "Veteran

1861-1865" markers which were commissioned from last year's budget allocation; also on hand are 158 recently-delivered "GAR" markers. D-2 biological cleaner is also available for Department cemetery projects. Contact me so these can be on hand when your Camp plans a Graves Registration or restoration project!

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Naughton

Department of Massachusetts, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
2023 Annual Encampment
Report on the Clarion Call

Clarion Call Editor; Roderick Fraser, Col Robert Gould Shaw Camp No. 54

The Clarion Call was sent out 4 times, on-time each quarter.
We have emails for 123 brothers in the Department. Commander Dupre was very successful in getting the camps to send in their email addresses.

We transitioned the Clarion Call from an email-based newsletter to Mailchimp this year.

Camps that have submitted articles and or news for inclusion in the Clarion Call In the past year:

Camp 25
Camp 50
Camp 54
1st MD SVR

The previous Department Commander asked all Brothers to bring in one new member and instructed the names of new members and their sponsors to be listed in the Clarion Call. Only one name was submitted.

Joseph Nawn	Camp 54	Roderick Fraser

Submitted
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty

R J Fraser Jr
Roderick J Fraser Jr.

SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS

INCORPORTATED BY ACT OF 83RD CONGRESS

PUBLIC LAW 605 AUG. 20, 1954

L.A. TIFFT CAMP #15

SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

- The camp held Memorial Day services @ Palmer MA
- Camp members attended Veteran's Day services in Belchertown, Ware, and Ludlow

The camp has gained 4 new brothers this year and lost 5 brothers, 3 due to their passing, 1 by transferring out, and 1 by Honorable Discharge.

The Camp Commander provided Taps to as many funerals for veterans as he could fit into his schedule.

Respectfully Submitted
In Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty
Edward T. Knight
Camp Commander

From: Commander Matthew Sargent Willie Grout Camp #25

To: Department of Massachusetts Staff

Subj: Annual Report of Activities

The Willie Grout Camp #25 has remained active in preserving the memory of the soldiers, sailors and marines who fought for the Union in the Civil War. Below are some highlights from the 2022-2023 timeframe

1. May 2022 -- Annual flagging of Civil War Graves in Hope Cemetery in Worcester, Massachusetts. Work continues on the database owned and maintained by the Camp
2. May 30th 2022 -- Brother Mark Ziemba read General Logans Memorial Day Order at Hope Cemetery on Memorial Day as part of Worcester, Massachusetts Memorial Day events
3. July 2022 -- A camp field trip to the Rockland GAR hall was attended by three members of the camp and enjoyed by all
4. November 6th 2022 -- Members of the camp participated in the General Benjamin Butler Memorial Ceremony in November along with the SVR and members of other camps in the State.
5. November 12th 2022 -- Brother Rey Rodriguez and his daughter attended the Worcester, Massachusetts Veterans Day Parade marching along the short route with the camps guide-on
6. November 17th to 22nd 2022 -- Brothers from the camp attended the Gettysburg Remembrance Day trip in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
7. March 27th 2023 – At the monthly camp meeting, Commander Matthew Sargent presented the Worcester Marine Corps League Commandant with a plaque from the camp in recognition of the generosity and hospitality provided by the Marine Corps League in allowing the camp to host their meetings
8. Brother Roy Henry has continued to flag graves of Civil War veterans and interact with various organizations in his hometown of Uxbridge, Massachusetts in the research and documentation of those from Uxbridge with a tie to the Civil War
9. Brother Andrew Kjellberg has continued to research and develop a database of all veterans to include those from the Civil War buried in his hometown of Grafton, Massachusetts
10. Brother Garrett Dupre 1LT, United States Army returned from deployment to Jordan as a member of the New Hampshire, National Guard. He has gifted the Department an American Flag that was flown from his Humvee while on Deployment in support of Operation Inherent Resolve

HEADQUARTERS

CAMP COMMANDER

GENERAL D. N. COUCH CAMP NO. 26
SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

TAUNTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02780
INCORPORATED BY ACT OF CONGRESS, P.L 605,83RD CONGRESS

Our activities over the year include:

Adding a new Brother as a Member of Camp 26 increased our roster to 5 Brothers. We have another new member in process and another potential member referred by Senior Vice Commander Fraser.

Inventorying local Civil War Memorials and are in the process of determining ownership and assessing their condition for repairs or restoration. Continuing our ongoing collaboration with the local Veterans Graves Registration Officer to scope out grants and other funding sources.

Established or renewed contacts with the local High School Guidance Depts., Community Service Coordinators and ROTC leads.

Continuing to sit on the Board of Trustees for the Taunton G.A.R Post 3 Scholarship Trust. Last year we awarded three scholarships each in the amount of $1,000.00. This year we will be awarding two scholarships for $1,000.00 each. In 2022, we also collaborated with representatives from the Mayor's Office of Taunton to redesign the G.A.R Scholarship Webpage and Application process.

Brother Chris Cox continues his Civil War reenactment activities and has also marked his 32nd year with the 1812 Marine Guard re-enactors, as a crew member onboard the USS Constitution.

Brother Van Jabagjorian represented Camp 26 at the Lincoln Birthday Brunch and made an informative presentation to the Camp 26 Brothers at our March Meeting.

We continue our collaboration with the Taunton Allied Veterans, Taunton Vietnam Veterans, and the Veterans Memorial Marker Committee to build public awareness of the SUVCW and actively participate in local Patriotic activities. (Flagging graves, fundraising, Patriotic holiday events). We are also actively pursuing recruitment of new Members and Associate Members from the ranks of these other organizations.

It is our hope that leveraging our relationship with other local Veterans Organizations will allow us to better fulfill our mission and to serve in ways we otherwise would not be able to give our limited roster.

Respectfully Submitted

In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,
Michael E. Rice
Commander General D.N. Couch Camp 26 Department of Massachusetts SUVCW

Colonel Robert Gould Shaw Camp # 54
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Department of Massachusetts
% Roderick J Fraser Jr
Camp Commander
162 Fiat Ave., Cranston, RI 02910

To: Commander, Department of Massachusetts Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

From: Col Robert Gould Shaw Camp No. 54 Commander Roderick J Fraser Jr

Subj: Col. Robert Gould Shaw Camp 54 Annual Report for the 2023 Department Encampment

Camp 54 worked hard this past year to be active and promote the SUVCW and keep green the memory of the gallant Union soldiers who served so selflessly.

In the past year, we have brought in two new brothers but have lost 6 brothers.
One brother requested an Honorable Discharge.
Five brothers were dropped due to non payment of dues.
Our current strength is at 11 Brothers.

Camp 54 continues the restoration of the Gen. Charles Russell Lowell GAR Plot at Mt Hope Cemetery as a project. In 2022, brothers of the camp cleaned headstones in the plot for the third year in a row. They also cleaned stones in the City of Boston Soldiers and Sailors Plot.
The Camp raised money to restore the two pieces of field artillery at the plot. This includes purchasing granite bases as well as having the cannon preserved. Camp 54 has over 90% of the funding needed to complete the project and is requesting $550.00 from the Department in order to complete the project.

In honor of Veterans Day, Col Robert Gould Shaw, Camp 54 held a headstone dedication ceremony for US Navy Landsman Thomas B Francis at the Gen, Charles Russell Lowell GAR Plot at Mt Hope Cemetery in Boston. Landsman Thomas was an African-American and served in USS KENNEBEC In Admiral David Farragut's Squadron. He took part in the attacks on Forts Jackson and St. Philip on the Mississippi River and the bombardment of Vicksburg. KENNEBEC participated in the battle of Mobile Bay in 1864. At the end of his enlistment, he was assigned to USS CIRCASSIAN, where he served until the end of his enlistment. Francis died 23 Sep 1906 at the age of 62.

Participating in the ceremony was Camp 54 Commander Rod Fraser, Department Commander John Dupre, Department Chaplain Dexter Bishop, Department of Massachusetts American Legion Commander Sally Nay, Post Commander of the American Legion William E. Carter Post 16 Mary-dith Tuitt, Camp 54 Brothers Daniel Johnson and Joshua Hodge.

Camp 54 was joined by the Color Guard of the 1st Military District Of the SVR made up of Brothers Kevin Tucker, Charles Lewis, Thomas Potter and Al Smith.

Camp Commander Fraser presented a Certificate of appreciation to Hugo Hodge, son of Camp 54 Brother Joshua Hodge, for his work cleaning the headstones in the cemetery GAR Plot.

Camp 54 Commander Fraser participated in the General Benjamin Butler Remembrance Ceremony.

Camp 54 held their first post-COVID in person meeting in December at the Hyde Park Library which is also the home of the Hyde Park Historical Society. Society members were on hand to show the Camp Brothers many of the Civil War and GAR related items in their collection. Many of the items were from the Timothy Ingraham GAR Post 121 including a group photo of the post and the portrait of Col Ingraham that hung in the Hall.

Camp 54 Commander Fraser participated in the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Massachusetts National Cemetery in Bourne to include a memorial ceremony for the 7 soldiers of the 1st Massachusetts infantry who were killed during a skirmish known as Blackburn's Ford.

Camp 54 Commander Fraser participated in General Ulysses S. Grant's 200th Birthday ceremony in New York City.

Camp 54 Commander Fraser participated in the rededication of the Shaw 54th Memorial on Beacon Street in Boston.

Camp 54 Commander Fraser represented the National Commander in Chief as the installing officer at the Department of Florida Department Encampment in st. Cloud, FL. As part of that trip, he along with brother Mellor of Massachusetts and Florida brothers visited the Grave of Corporal Justin M. Duncan. Corp Duncan was originally

from Massachusetts and served in Company A of the 54th MA Infantry. Duncan enlisted on 18 February 1863 in Chester, Massachusetts. He mustered out 20 August 1865 with his regiment. He was appointed Corporal on 25 May 1865 by Lieutenant Colonel Henry Northey Hooper.

The Col. Robert Gould Shaw Camp held elections on October 21, 2021. The officers elected for 2023:

Camp Commander - Roderick Fraser
Senior Vice Commander - Peter Preble
Junior Vice Commander - Todd Bryda
Treasurer - Donald Denning
Secretary - Joshua Hodge
Council - Joshua Hodge, Daniel Johnson, Kevin Tucker

Officers were subsequently installed by Commander John Dupre at our December Meeting.

Submitted.
In Fraternity, Charity, and Loyalty,

Roderick J Fraser Jr.

_____

Roderick Fraser
Camp Commander

Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
LIFE MEMBER APPLICATION

(Associates and Juniors are not eligible)
Form 9

NAME:_____

ADDRESS:_____

_____

CITY:_____STATE:_____ZIP CODE +4:_____

DATE OF BIRTH:_____ANCESTOR'S NAME:_____

COMPANY:_____REGIMENT OR SHIP:_____

RELATIONSHIP OF ANCESTOR TO YOU THE APPLICANT

[Example - great, great, great grandfather]:_____

CAMP:_____DEPARTMENT:_____

ENCLOSED, FIND $ (SEE FEE SCHEDULE BELOW) AS MY FIRST PAYMENT / FULL PAYMENT TO BE A **LIFE MEMBER** IN THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR. I HEREBY DECLARE THAT I WAS ADMITTED IN THE SUVCW ON THE_____DAY OF_____AND THAT I AM A BROTHER IN GOOD STANDING.

(Month, Year)

_____ DATE: _____
(SIGNATURE)

FEE SCHEDULE

Under 40	1,000.00
41-50	700.00
51-60	500.00
61-70	325.00
71 plus	225.00

Are you a veteran of the United States Armed Forces? Y ☐ N ☐

Not less than one-third of the total fee shall accompany this application and the remainder shall be paid at the convenience of the Member within three (3) years from the date of the application. A Member is not considered to be a **Life Member** until the required fees are **paid in full**. If the full payment has not been received within three (3) years, the amount of payment submitted shall be designated as a donation to the Permanent Fund of the Order.

Life membership in the SUVCW *excuses a Brother from paying annual National per capita dues*. Life Members are required to pay annual Department and Camp level dues. A Department may waive annual Department dues for Life Members, but the Department must make this decision. Likewise, a Camp may waive annual Camp dues, or a portion thereof, for Life Members, but the Camp must make this determination. Examples of each of these three dues conditions can be found within the Order.

Make check or money-order payable to: Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War
Mail application and payment directly to:
SUVCW National HQ, 1 Lincoln Circle at Reservoir Park, Suite 240 (Nat'l Civil War Museum Bldg.),
Harrisburg PA 17103-2411.

Previous versions of this form are void.
Form 9 – Revised May 2021. © 2021 SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR
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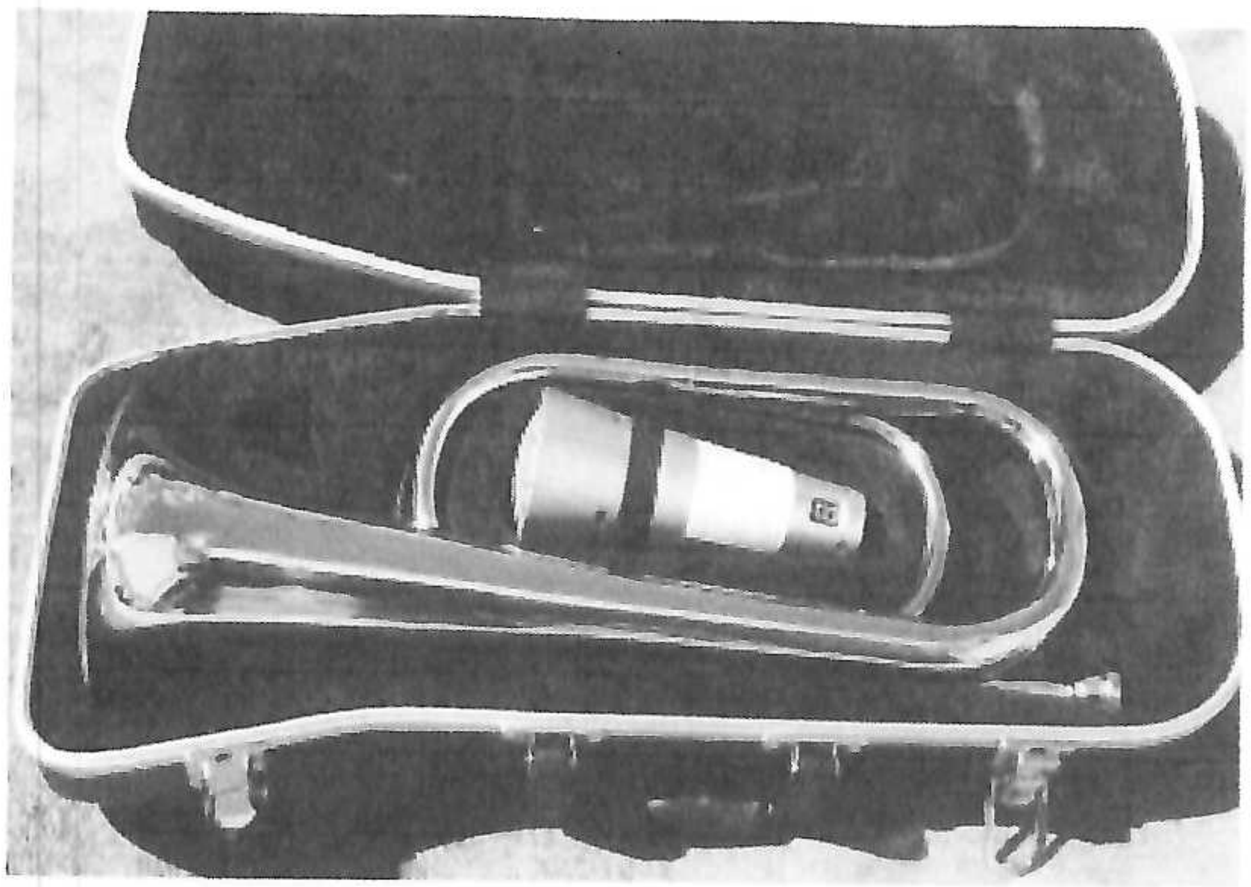
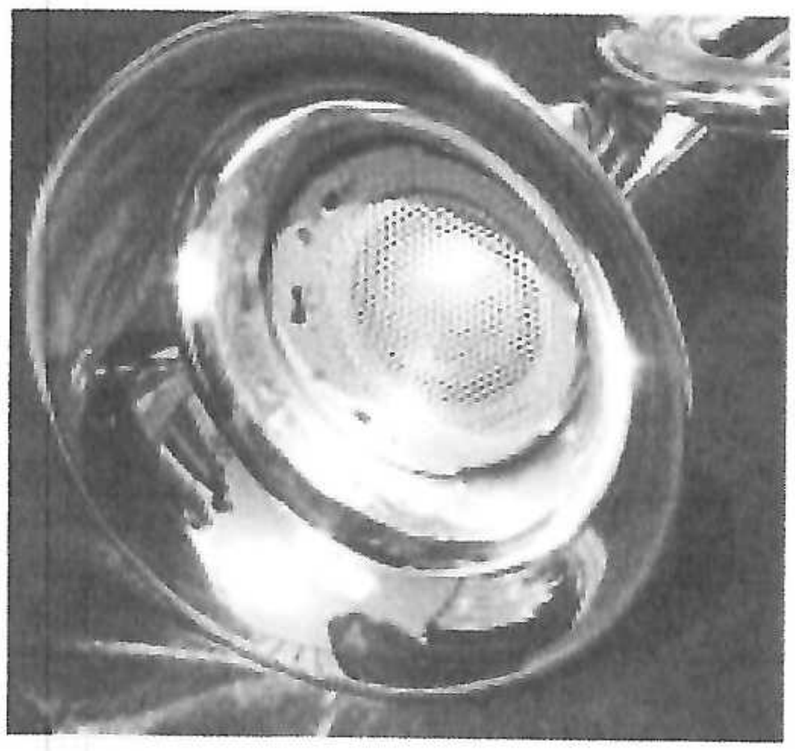


The American Ceremonial Bugle. Nickel silver 17 inch bugle, New silver insert that plays "Taps" and other calls*. Hard shell carry case.

Price: $580 (48 states)see order form for other pricing.

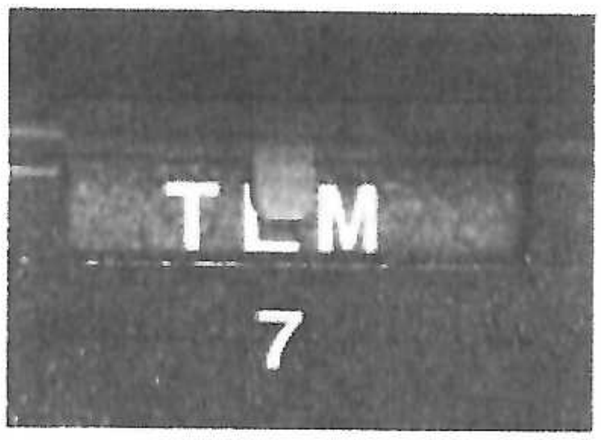
How it works....



The device, slides snugly deep into the bugle's bell. The device plays a high-quality recorded version of "Taps," taken from the 1999 Memorial Day service at Arlington National Cemetery. The resonating tones inside the bugle create a realistic horn quality.

The Insert has 3 operating settings:

T = Taps only (U.S. Military Funeral Honors)



1	First Call, Reveille, Assembly	6	Retreat
2	Assembly, Adjutant Call, Retreat, To The Colors	7	Attention
3	Assembly, Retreat, To The Colors, Taps	8	First Call, Reveille, Assembly, Adjutant Call, Retreat, To The colors, Tattoo, Taps
4	Tattoo, Assembly, Taps	9	To The Colors, Taps
5	Reveille	0	Taps, To The Colors

Adding Additional Calls:

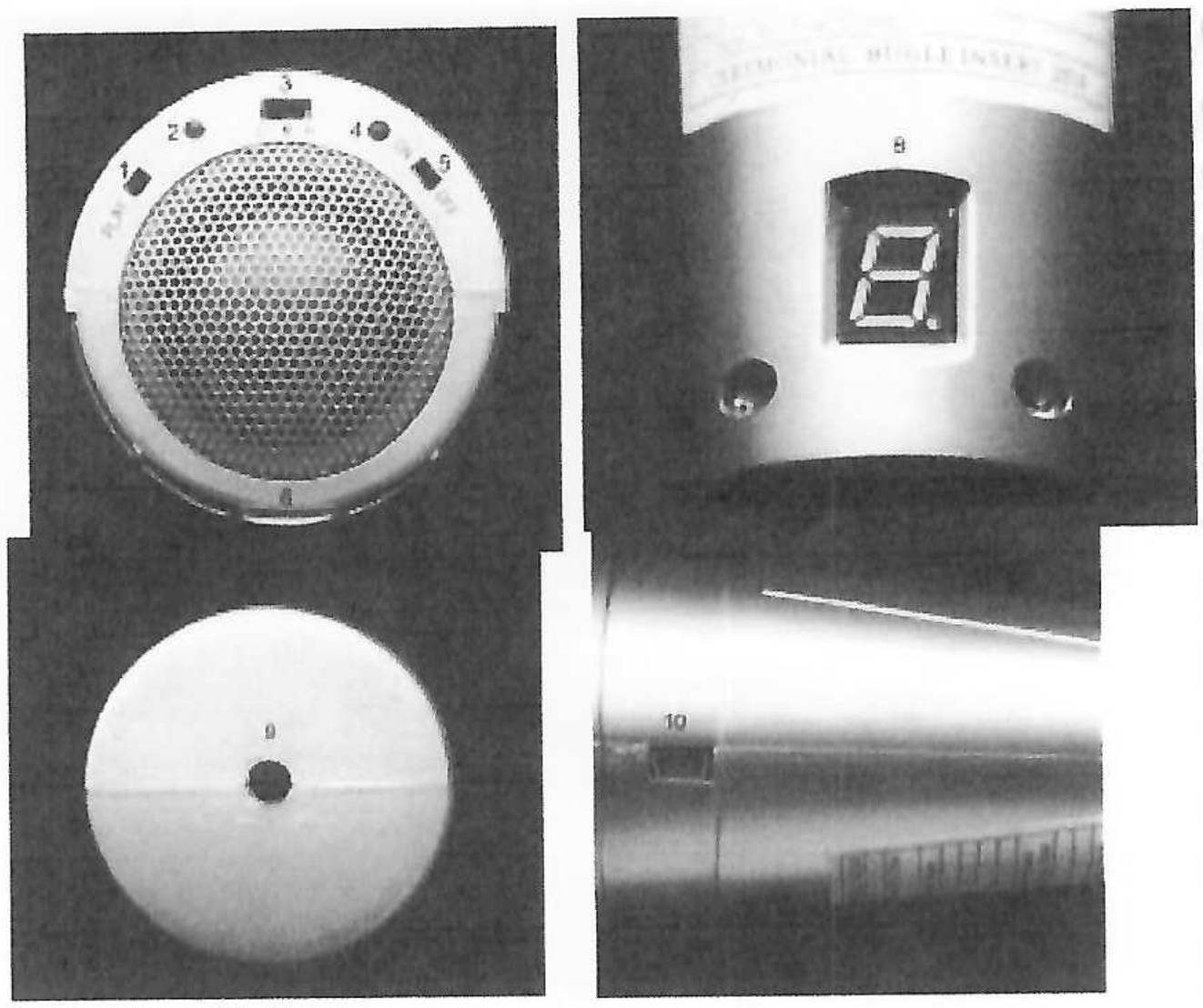
This can be done using the supplied USB cable. You may also use the software to re-arrange the play list. Software and user instructions can be downloaded from our web site.

US Calls: Army

First Call	Reveille	Assembly	Adjutant Call
Retreat	To the Color	Tattoo	Taps

Legend

1. Play Button
2. Green LED (operating light)
3. Volume Control
4. Red LED (battery light)
5. On/Off Switch
6. Removal Ring
7. Mode Selector
8. Multi-call Display
9. Multi-call Selector
10. USB Port



Using the Ceremonial Bugle

Conditions: Given a ceremonial bugle, you will perform "Taps" as part of a military funeral honors ceremony. You have checked your instrument ahead of time and prepared yourself for the ceremony.

Standards: The performance of "Taps" is a stationary function.

Performance Steps:

Fig 1

1. Prepare for the ceremony:

a. Inspect your uniform.

b. Check the batteries in the insert and replace if necessary.

c. Firmly seat the bugle insert inside the bell of the bugle. (Figure 1).

d. Set the volume control based on distance from funeral site or for an inside ceremony.

e. Test the bugle prior to the funeral service.

f. Place the insert in the off position and prepare for the ceremony.

g. Position the bugle horizontally between the left arm and body, with the bell pointed forward and the left hand gripping the front tubing of the bugle and assume the position of attention. (Figure 2).

Fig 2

Fig 3

h. Assume the parade rest position (Figure 3) while waiting for the veterans remains to arrive. Simultaneous movement occurs:

1) Left foot moves 10 inches to the left of the right foot.

2) Right hand moves to the small of your back, centered on the belt.

3) Fingers and thumb extended and joined with palm facing outward.

2. Perform the following actions:

Fig 4

a. When the remains arrive at the burial location and are being moved from the hearse or caisson to the gravesite, come to the position of attention and render a hand salute. (Figure 4). After the casket is put in place, cut your salute and return to the position of parade rest. (Figure 3).

b. On cue, when it's time for "Taps" to be played:
   1) Come to the position of attention. (Figure 2).
   2) Ready instrument. With your right hand, reach across and using your right index finger place the insert in the "on" position. (Figure 5).

Fig 5

This movement will require some practice if you are wearing gloves.

3) While your index finger is still inside the bell of the bugle, and the bugle is in the "on" position, continue on around and push the play button. You now have five seconds to bring the bugle up to the play position.

4) With your left hand, bring the bugle up to your lips while simultaneously bringing your right hand up to grip the top and center of the bugle. Release your left hand and bring it down to your side. (Figure 6).

5) Left arm hangs straight down without stiffness.
6) Keep left thumb straight along seam of trouser leg.
7) Left hand fingers are curled with tip of the thumb touching first joint of index finger and with the first joint of the fingers touching the trousers.
8) "Taps" is played and lasts about one minute.
9) While "Taps" is being played, breath normally as if actually playing the instrument. This will provide the veterans family with a more realistic visual image of a live bugler.

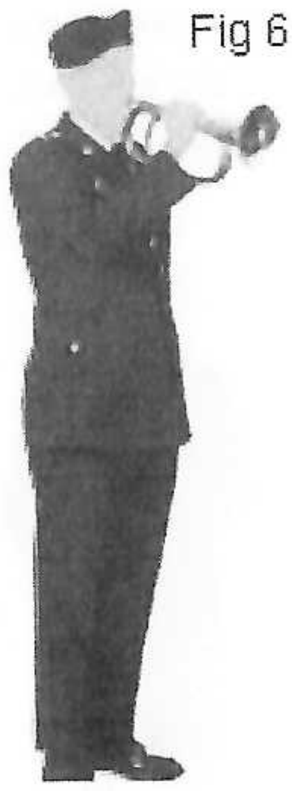


Fig 6

Fig 7

10) Upon completion of "Taps", bring your left hand up and grip the front tubing of the bugle and return to the carry position.
(Figure 7).
Release your right hand and bring it down to your side and remain in the position of attention until the ceremony is completed. (Figure 2). There is no need to place the bugle in the "off" position at this time. After the funeral detail departs the area, you may place the insert in the "off" position and the service is complete.

Echo Taps - Silver Taps:

Army Regulation 220-90, Army Bands dated December 2007, Paragraph 2-5h(1) states the following: "Echo Taps" or "Silver Taps," the practice of performing "Taps" with multiple buglers, is not authorized. "Echo Taps" is not a part of Army tradition and improperly uses bugler assets.

Army Regulation 600-25, Salutes, Honors, and Visits of Courtesy, dated September 2004, Glossary, Section 2 states the following: "Taps The traditional "lights out" musical composition played at military funerals and memorials. The official version of "Taps" is played by a single bugle. In accordance with AR 220–90, "Echo or Silver Taps," which is performed by 2 buglers, is not authorized."

Field Manual 12-50, U.S. Army Bands, dated October 1999, Appendix A, Official And Ceremonial Music, Appendix A, Section 1 – Ceremonial Music, Paragraph A-35 "A-35. Signals that unauthorized lights are to be extinguished. This is the last call of the day. The call is also sounded at the completion of a military funeral ceremony. Taps is to be performed by a single bugler only. Performance of "Silver Taps" or "Echo Taps" is not consistent with Army traditions, and is an improper use of bugler assets